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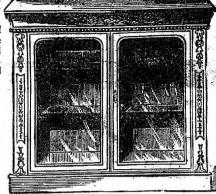
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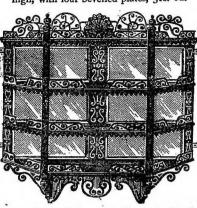
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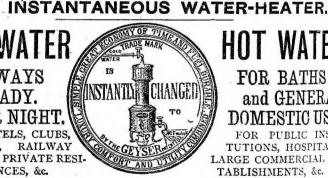
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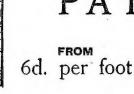
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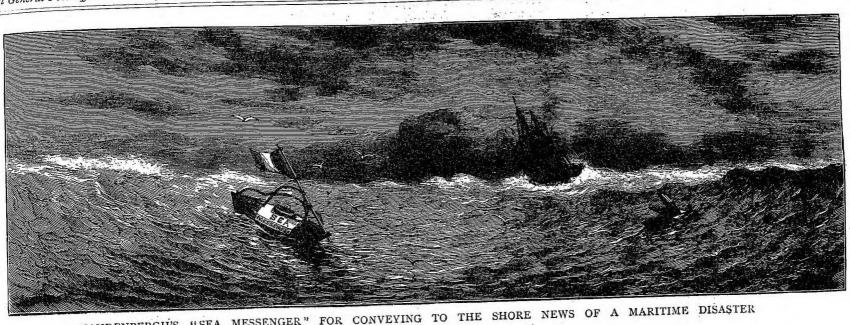
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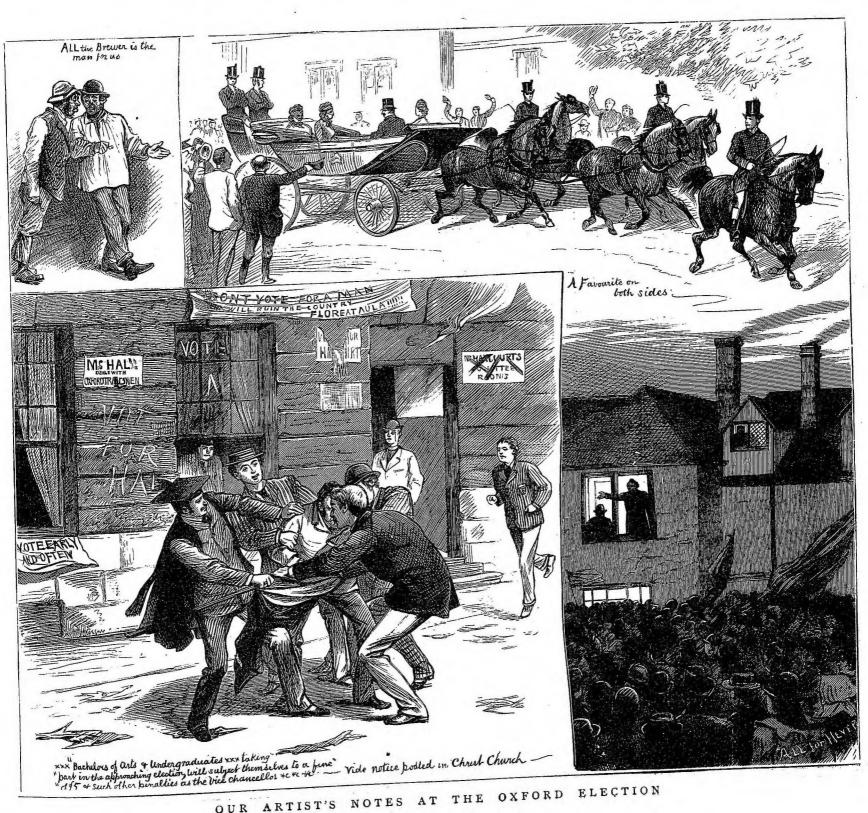
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VANDENBERGH'S "SEA MESSENGER" FOR CONVEYING TO THE SHORE NEWS OF A MARITIME DISASTER



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ENGLAND AND AUSTRIA .--Even when Austria was absolutist and reactionary, a traditional friendship existed between her Government and the Government of this country. Taught wisdom by the troubles of 1848-9, Austro-Hungary has since heartily entered upon the path of constitutional freedom, and consequently the ancient friendship subsisting between the two Governments has gradually deepened into downright international good will. fortunate, perhaps, that the relations between the two countries are of this character, for if Mr. Gladstone had said concerning some unfriendly and bellicose Power that which he has said (not only once but on several occasions) concerning Austria, scrious trouble might have resulted. Foreigners find it hard to understand some of our insular ways, and it appears that they are (perhaps foolishly) in the habit of attaching considerable importance to the public utterances of a man who for some years had been Queen Victoria's principal adviser, and who might become her principal adviser again. Mr. Gladstone takes quite a different view of the obligations of an ex-Premier. An individual in this delightfully free and irresponsible condition may use, he thinks, any amount of "polemical language." Mr. Gladstone, when campaigning in North Britain, wanted a stick, or rather a series of sticks, wherewith to chastise that wicked Lord Beaconsfield, and this Austrian cudgel seemed well adapted to his purpose. But now that he has once more become Premier, a complete transformation is effected. In the most courtier-like language he assures "dear Count Karolyi" that he had no intention of annoying the Emperor, and retracts all that he has said which was calculated to hurt the feelings of the Austrian people. We wonder what the majority of the electors, by whose will it is that Mr. Gladstone occupies his present exalted post, think of this edifying exhibition? Are they pleased to have at the head of the Government a man who at threescore and ten possesses so little control over his tongue, and so little firmness of purpose, that he is obliged, at the bidding of a foreign Power, to apologise for the rash rhetoric which he uttered, apparently for electioneering purposes, some months before? Let the other Ministers take serious warning by their Chief's blunder. The new Postmaster-General has already made a mistake of the same kind. He has used language about the Indian Budget which he could not justify, and has had to apologise for saying that a telegram had been received from India, and had been purposely withheld by the late Government, which in reality was never sent. If the new Ministers are going on in this style, the electors will soon begin to wish that they had not kicked out the poor Tories so unceremoniously.

INCORRIGIBLES .-- What are we to do with our "Incorrigibles?" This is a question which must have been asked several times lately by those who scan the Police Reports of the metropolitan and other districts. By "Incorrigibles" we mean not that class of offenders who, after comparatively long sentences, recur to criminal pursuits of a graver kind, but rather the "drunk and disorderly," and others who seem to spend their whole time when out of prison in the commission of what may be termed minor offences. The law deals with the former class pretty effectively, and terms of penal servitude increasing in length from time to time keep them out of harm's way by protecting them against themselves and society. But in the case of the latter class small fines and short terms of imprisonment are all that can be inflicted, and when these are paid or served the Incorrigibles are turned loose to practise again their inveterate habits. It was only a few days ago that one of the class, a woman who had but reached the age of thirty-five years, was convicted for being drunk and incapable at the Marylebone Police Court, and it was deposed that about 200 convictions stood recorded against her. The magistrate inflicted a fine of 10s., observing that he wished he had the power to make the amount more. Such a sentence is a mere farce, and, as facts prove, utterly inadequate to restrain Incorrigibles in their evil ways. Now there is no want of charity in saying that such persons are a nuisance to themselves and pests to society, and there would be really nothing harsh in dealing with them as Incorrigibles, and unfit for association with their fellows in the world of daily life. We would suggest, therefore, the advisability of the law being so amended that such persons, after a certain number of convictions, should be immured for long periods, and, perhaps, in some extreme cases, for life; but at the same time places of incarceration should be provided for them which should be something between workhouses and gaols in their arrangements and discipline. Wholesome work and occupation, and even amusement, should be found for these Incorrigibles, and the system of their incarceration so planned that those who, by industry and good behaviour, showed fair hope of ultimate amendment might be restored to the world. Perhaps also it would be well that Incorrigibles should have the privilege of voluntarily incarcerating themselves as "Inebriates" have under a recent Act.

JUDGMENT REVERSED.—The Oxford election exemplifies the proverb, "Try, try, try again." A chorus of Liberals had exclaimed, "It is most discourteque to contest

the Home Secretary's seat. The verdict of the electors was given only the other day. Be satisfied with that." But Mr. Hall and his friends were not satisfied, and the event has justified their decision. We think, as Sir William Harcourt thought a few years ago, that Her Majesty's choice of a new Minister should also be ratified by that Minister's constituents. It is a wholesome rule, and should be approved by Liberals as being thoroughly democratic in intention. If it were often used merely to give trouble and annoyance, that is to say, in cases where there was no reasonable prospect of a reversal of the popular verdict, it might be repealed, but, upon the late change of Ministry, the privilege was asserted nowhere except at Oxford, where, even if Mr. Hall had been again defeated, there would have been some justification for his attempt. At the General Election, the respective numbers polled were very close, Mr. Hall was only ten behind Mr. Chitty, and he might fairly think that his personal popularity would weigh strongly in a single combat. Some of the electors apparently must have changed their minds within a few weeks. Why they did so we cannot say. Perhaps it is the nature of the animal, and it is possible that if the General Election were fought over again at this moment the result would be different. We presume that some self-denying gentleman will be found to vacate his seat in favour of Sir William Harcourt, who is now like the Peri shivering outside the gates of Paradise. We should feel more sorry for him if he had not been so abusive, especially of Sir Robert Peel. But we cannot help admiring his wonderful self-command. He actually greeted these fickle Oxford electors with the words, "God bless you." A satirical correspondent of the Standard hints that he meant something else, but we will accept the gracious phrase as it stands, and hope that the rest of Her Majesty's Ministers will show equal control over those unruly members (far more dangerous than Irish Obstructionists) which they carry in their mouths.

PROTECTION OF BIRDS .-- Our "feathered friends," whether songsters or not, cannot complain of having no attention paid to their well-being of late years. They have been the subjects of more than one Act of Parliament designed for their protection, and hardly a week passes but that in the columns of one or other of our contemporaries a voice is raised in their favour. Unfortunately, the Acts of Parliament now in force as to "Wild Fowl" and "Bird Protection" are very complicated, and very incomplete, giving various loopholes for evasion; and after all said and done our birds, whether indigenous or immigrants, do not fare very much better than they did before the Acts were passed. Then again in the schedules of the Acts in question certain birds are named for protection which in the opinion of many persons should not have been included, while others are omitted which might fairly claim insertion. Moreover the friends of the birds differ very much in opinion as to which it is most desirable to protect on the score of their habits not being injurious to the products of our gardens and fields. Now probably all of us but with few exceptions would agree that birds of all kinds, whether they sing sweetly or not, are pleasant objects in our country and even town life, and therefore we think few persons would be found to oppose the simplification of birds' protection legislation by making it unlawful from the 1st of March to the last day of July, or some such period, to take or destroy any bird whatever, or its eggs or nest. If it were found necessary to thin down any particular class of birds in any district, measures could be taken to that effect after the last date mentioned; but during the "close time," which would tally with the breeding season, all birds would be sacred.

FIRES AND FACTORIES .- It is quite a pleasure to meet Mr. Mackonochie on ground where we can thoroughly agree with him, and we hope his timely letter on the Gray's Inn Lane fire will bear practical fruit. In the country, although their nominal earnings may be smaller than in towns, the poor have many alleviations of their lot; but in great cities nearly all influences are against them. They have no authorised playing places for their children; they are crowded together in dirty streets and under a smoky atmosphere; and, for this reason alone, immigrants from the country too often lose their traditional habits of cleanliness, and become slatternly and untidy. Then the poor have a special risk to contend with from which their richer neighbours are comparatively free. Within the last twenty or thirty years many dwelling-houses have been pulled down in the central districts to make way for workshops and factories. But in these situations a number of dwelling-houses still remain, and these are eagerly sought after by those of the poor whose avocations compel them to live in the central regions. Most of the workshops thus erected are high and they are often filled with substances of the most combustible character. If a fire breaks out in such places, it is not like a simple fire in a dwelling-house, it is a furious conflagration accompanied by explosions; and, before the land-steamers can master it, a large part of the neighbourhood is wrecked. These poor folks, if they escape with their lives, lose all their humble chattels, and the aid of charity has to be invoked in their favour. The proprietor of the factory, on the other hand, who is primarily the cause of the mischief, is usually insured, and merely suffers a temporary inconvenience. Why should there not be a Minister to supervise Building Arrangements generally? It would be quite as important a post as the management of Her Majesty's Buckhounds.

-A very large section of society must EXETER HALL.feel something akin to relief at the announcement made a few days ago that Exeter Hall in the Strand is no longer threatened with conversion into a building for mere secular purposes. And yet such it would appear has been the fate hanging over it for some time past. The mere thought that it might become a manufactory, part of an hotel, a bazaar, or even a music-hall, was horrifying to those who for years had associated it with religious and philanthropic movements, and especially to that school of thought in the Church to which its flooring and platform was more than formally consecrated ground. Years ago Exeter Hall, from a religious point of view, was a power in the world, and is so even now. though perhaps in a less degree than it was formerly and it is still at this season of the year, like Mecca to the Mahometans, a kind of shrine to which many earnest persons make devout pilgrimage. The dange which threatened it has passed away, and henceforth it appears that the Young Men's Christian Association will be its owners, and the May meetings will flourish under the new auspices as under the old. These meetings have a strong hold on multitudes who throng to them, and this year they show no diminution in numbers or enthusiasm. It may be noted, however, that of late years they seem to have become of a more heterogeneous character, and the objects advocated at the historical hall more various. Under the new régimé perhaps this tendency will not be encouraged, and the building is likely to preserve tenaciously its old

-If the late Sir Robert Peel had SUGAR BOUNTIES .-been aided by the experience of the last five-and-thirty years, he would probably have been more cautious in sweeping away duties on foreign commodities. The idea then prevalent among economists, and which caused Peel's successors to follow in his wake, was that Free Trade, being entirely admirable and flawless, must shortly be adopted by all other countries. Sad experience, however, has shown that the United Kingdom is the sole believer in Mr. Cobden's commercial gospel. America, the Continent, the British colonies, are all unbelievers. In some Continental countries, notably in France and Hoiland, they have for a long time past exhibited Protection in the especially objectionable form of granting bounties upon manufactured sugar when exported. As our manufacturers possess no such privileges, these foreigners can naturally undersell us, for years our refineries have been in a languishing, if not in a ruined, condition, and although of late there has been a revival in some branches, the loaf-sugar makers have been killed off by this bounty-fed importation. It is all very well for staunch Free Traders to say, "Let them alone, all these bounties come out of French and Dutch pockets, they will soon wake up to a sense of their folly." There is no sign that the peoples of these countries feel that in this respect they are unduly taxed; patriotism makes them wish to help their own countrymen; and, even if they did grumble, the public is seldom any match for a highly-interested and well-organised industry. And not only are our home refineries suffering, but the bounty-fed beet-root sugars of the Continent are seriously discouraging production in our tropical colonies. This seems to us a case where, if our public men would but yield a little of their superstitious veneration for Free Trade, a moderate import duty would cause a home industry to flourish without raising the price of sugar in any appreciable degree.

CRICKET AND FOOTBALL TEAMS. -- Having just come to the end of the Football and beginning of the Cricket Season, it may not be out of place to say a few words on a subject which has agitated in no small degree the players at these games, whose name is, indeed, legion. It would seem that a custom has sprung up in both pastimes of utilising in inter-club matches the services of players, who are not bona fide members of the contestant clubs. course is done with a view to strengthen a particular side, and so increase its prospect of victory; but the practice will not bear investigation, and, indeed, is a reprehensible one. In the first place, a victory gained by a club which imports foreign assistance loses much of its significance, and, strictly speaking, is no victory at all. And in the second place, the introduction of strangers into a team, whether at football or cricket, is an injustice on one or more members of a club, who are fairly entitled to a place in the team, even though at the tail end of it. This injustice is particularly felt at cricket. Many members of clubs practise assiduously, and often at an appreciable loss of time and money, with a view to qualify themselves for the honour of playing in the eleven in its matches; and it is more than dispiriting to them to find themselves excluded by strangers. There were murmurs last year from different parts of the country that local cricket was declining, and this unfair practice of which we are speaking was assigned as the cause, it being intimated that in many country clubs the number of members had been gradually falling off owing to this grievance. It would be well, therefore, just now for captains and secretaries of clubs, particularly in country districts, to consider this matter, and make up their minds to abolish the practice which has caused much ill feeling, and discourages many from pursuing our best out-door pastime.

ADULTERATED COTTON CLOTH.—Another strike is threatened in Lancashire. With these disputes the public

has no need to interfere, the battle will be fought out, if battle there must be, among the millowners, weavers, and spinners. But attention may be fully called to another subject, which is of vital importance to the shrewd folk of Lancashire. A of vital important North-Western India, quoted by Mr. W. P. letter from North-Western India, quoted by Mr. W. P. Andrew, states that the demand for English piece-goods is seriously falling off in Afghanistan, the Punjab, and Central Asia. The reason for this is obvious. The natives complain that a shower of rain falling on the English-made turbans and waist-cloths makes their heads and loins feel as if enveloped by layers of starch. Cotton manufacturers are always on the look-out for fresh markets, let them take care that the misconduct of some of their fraternity does not shut them out of markets where they are already established.

NOTICE. — With this number is issued an EXTRA FOUR-PAGE SUPPLEMENT, containing the PORTRAITS of MEMBERS of the NEW LIBERAL MINISTRY.—The Half-Sheet this week, though delivered in the middle of the paper, must be placed for binding between pages 496 and 505.



LYCEUM.—MERCHANT OF VENICE (187th Time) Every Evening, at 8.15. Shylock, Mr. Irving; Portia, Miss Ellen Terry. Morning Evening, at 8.15. Shylock, Mr. Irving; Portia, Miss Ellen Terry Performances Saturdays, May 8 and 15, at 2 o'clock. Box-office open 10 to 5.

LYCEUM.—Miss ELLEN TERRY'S Benefit, THURSDAY
NEXT, 20th May.—The Performance will commence at a quarter to 8 o'clock
with THE MERCHANT OF VENICE (terminating with the Trial Scene). Portia,
Miss Ellen Terry; Shylock, Mr. Irving. After which will be produced for the first time
an Idyll in one act, entitled IOLANTHE, adapted and rewritten by W. G. Wills from
Henrick Hery's Foem, "King Rene's Daughter." Iolanthe, Miss Ellen Terry; Count
Tristran, Mr. Irving. Scene: A Garden (Hawes Craven). Music by Hamilton Clarke.

Tristran, Mr. Irving. Scene: A varden (Hawes Craven). Music by Hamilton Clarke.

NEW SADLER'S WELLS.—Mrs. S. F. BATEMAN, Proprietor and Manager.—THE DANITES, Joaquin Miller's famous American play, descriptive of life in the Far West, as depicted by Bret Harte. In order that the peculiar dialect and manner should be accurately given, the characters will be represented by the same company of American artists who have—under the management of Mr. McKee Rankin—performed them in all the chief cities of the United States for the Green of the Chief was the Chief Chi

DRITANNIA THEATRE, HOXTON.—Sole Lessee, Mrs. S.
DIANE—Every Evening, at 6.45, a New Drama, THE REIGN OF BLOOD.
Misses M. A. Bellair, L. Rayner, M. Brewer, Newham; Messrs, J. B. Howe, J. Reynolds, H. Evans, Charlton, Drayton, Reeve, Hyde, Pittherman. After which, MAJOK MARIE ANNE. Mrs. S. Lane; Messrs, E. Drebound, Bigwood, Lewis, Towers; Misses B. Adams, J. Summers. Concluding with CHANGE FOR A SOVEREIGN.
Misses Emma Kerridge, Lizzie Wyatt, Harriett Vernon, Laura Ethardo, Phoebe Goward, Mr. Fred Yarnoid.

NEW GRECIAN THEATRE, City Road.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. T. G. CLARK.—Every Evening, at 7, BARNABY RUDGE. Messrs. F. Dobell, Monkhouse, Syms, Parker, Grant, &c.: Misses A. Thomas, Jane Coveney, M. A. Victor, Inch., &c. To conclude with ELACK-EVED SUSAN. Miss Marie M. A. Victor, Inch., &c. To conclude with ELACK-EVED SUSAN. Miss Marie M. A. Victor, Inch., &c. To conclude with ElaCK-EVED SUSAN. Miss Marie M. A. Victor, Inch., &c. To conclude with ElaCK-EVED SUSAN. Miss Marie M. R. Grounds Brilliantly Illuminated. Dancing on the Circular Platform at 8. Morning Performance on Whit-Monday at 2.

RERLIOZ'S FAUST, May 21 and 22.

BERLIOZ'S FAUST.—Mr. CHARLES HALLE begs to announce TWO PERFORMANCES of this celebrated dramatic legend (given by him with the greatest success in Manchester) on FRIDAY and SATURDAY FUENINGS, May 21 and 22, in St, Iamee's Hall. Margaret, Miss Mary Davies; FUENINGS, May 21 and 22, in St, Iamee's Hall. Margaret, Miss Mary Davies; Fuent, Mr. Edward Lloyd; Brander, Mr. Hilton; Mephistopheles, Herr Henschel. Flaust, Mr. Edward Lloyd; Brander, Mr. Hilton; Mephistopheles, Herr Henschel. Flaust, Mr. Edward Lloyd; Brander, Mr. Hilton; Mephistopheles, Herr Henschel. Flower Green, Mr. Hilton; Mephistopheles, Herr Henschel. Flaust, Mr. Edward Lloyd; Brander, Mr. Hilton; Mephistopheles, Herr Henschel. Flaust, Mr. Edward Lloyd; Brander, Mr. Hilton; Mephistopheles, Herr Henschel, Brander, Mr. Hilton; Mr. Hilton; Mr. Brander, Mr. Hilton; Mr. Hilton; Mr. Brander, Mr. Hilton;

DHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.—Conductor, Mr. W. G. CUSINS. THILL ARMONIC SOCIETY.—Conductor, Mr. W. G. CUSINS. SIXTH CONCERT, WEDNESDAY, May 19, ST. JAMES'S HALL. Doors open at half-past 7, to commence at 8. Overture (MS.) composed expressly for the Society, Sir Julius Benedict; Concerto for Violin, No. 2 in D Minor, Spohr, Violin, Her Society, Sir Julius Benedict; Concerto for Pianoforte in G, Ladwig Straus; Overture, Leonora (No. 3), Beethoven; Concerto for Pianoforte in G, Rudwigs Straus; Overture, Edwinor (MS.), Arthur Sullivar; Overture, Euryanthe, Weber. Vocalists—Madame E Minor (MS.), Arthur Sullivar; Overture, Euryanthe, Weber. Vocalists—Madame I Minor (MS.), arthur Andrew Lucas, Weber, and Co., 84, New Bond Street, W, usual Agents, and Austin's Ticket Office, St. James's Hall.

unreserved, 5s., 2s., 6d., and 1s. Stanley Lucas, Weber, and Co., 34, New Bond Street, W., usual Agents, and Austin's Ticket Office, 5t. James's Hall.

CANTERBURY THEATRE OF VARIETIES. Under Royal Patronage.—Great Whitsuntide Holiday Attractions.—Every Evening at 8, a New Grand Ballet by M. Dewinne, entitled NYMPHS OF THE OCEAN. Supported by Mdles. Ada, Alice Holt, Phyllis Broughton, Florence Powell, Nelli Aguzzi M. Dewinne, M. Carlos, M. Bettriam, and the Corps de Ballet. Specila Engagement of Miss Nelly Power, Miss Emily Mott, Miss Marie Compton, Miss Litzie Simms, Miss Sara Beryl, Sisters Marie, Nina Warde; Messrs, G. H. Macdermott, Arthur Roberts, James Fawn, Victor Liston, Fred Law, De Castro Troupe, and Lorenai Troupe. Concluding with the Snowball Ballet. Prices, 6d. to £2 zs.

MR. and MRS. GERMAN REED'S ENTERTAINMENT, ST. GEORGES HALL, Langham Place. Managers, Messrs. Alfred Reed and Corney Grain. CASTLE BOTHEREM, by Arthur Law; music by Hamilton Clarke. ROTTEN ROW, a Musical Sketch, by Mr. Corney Grain. And THREE FLATS, by Arthur Albecket; music by Edouard Marlois. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday Evenings, at 8. Thursday and Saturday Afternoons at 3. WHITSUNTIDE HOLIDAYS.

St. JAMES'S HALL.

WHITSUNTIDE HOLIDAYS.

St. JAMES'S MINSTRELS will give SPECIAL. DAY PERFORMANCES

SPECIAL DAY PERFORMANCES

will give
SPECIAL DAY PERFORMANCES
of their

(TO-MORROW) MONDAY AFTERNOON, May 17th, at THREE.
TUESDAY " 18th, "
WEDNESDAY " 19th, "
SATURDAY " 22nd, "
In addition to the Regular Performances.
EVERY NIGHT at EIGHT.

THE MOORE AND BURGESS MINSTRELS

will introduce
AN ENTIRELY NEW AND NOVEL FEATURE
into the second portion of their Holiday Programme in the form of a
GRAND MILITAN AND ALLEGORICAL
GRAND MILITAN AND ALLEGORICAL
TRANSFORMATION SABOT DANCE.
in which the services of the entire strength of the Company will be called into requisition.
The Dresses by Mrs. May: the Linelight effects by Mr. Kerr.
SYROPSIS OF INCIDENTS.
The Recompanent by Moonlight.
The Bivouse around the Watch-fire. Grand Military Chorus.
Tenting in the Old Camp Ground.
The Senty. Vivandieres Song. The Alarm.
The Fire Grand Feaking up of the Camp. Military Manœuvres. Pastimes of the Troops.

GRAND PAS DES SABOTS

GRAND PAS DES SABOTS.
Tableaux Vivants. Allegorical Finale.

THE MOORE AND BURGESS MINSTRELS.
FOUR SPECIAL PERFORMANCES

FOUR SPECIAL PERFORMANCES

of their

WHITSUN HOLIDAY PROGRAMME,

at the

ST. JAMES'S HALL

10.MORROW (MONDAY), TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, and SATURDAY.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF ENGLAND.—

A GENERAL MEETING of the Members will be held at the Society's Rooms will be read.

The President, Trustees, and Vice-Presidents will be elected, as well as 25 Members of the Council, in place of those who retire by rotation, but are eligible for re-election.

H. M. JENKINS, Secretary.

Loyalance Manager Square

HORSE SHOW, AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON.

SHOW OPEN MAY 20711, 31ST.

Phize Lists and Forms of Entry may be had on application to the Office, Barford AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON.

Street, N.
AGRICULTURAL HALL
COMPANY (Limited).

S. SIDNEY, Secretary and Manager. (By Order)

TRURO CATHEDRAL.

CEREMONY OF LAYING THE FIRST STONE ON MAY 20TH

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES (Duke of Cornwall).

Cickets for witnessing the same can be had by application to THOMAS CHIRGWIN, Tickets for witnessing the same can Esq., Truro. Seats, 21s., 10s. and 5s.; Luncheon Tickets, 10s. 6d.

CORPORATION OF LIVERPOOL.

AUTUMN EXHIBITION OF PICTURES IN OIL AND WATER COLOURS.

NOTICE TO ARTISTS.—The EXHIBITION will OPEN on MONDAY, September 6th, and CLOSE on SATURDAY, December 4th. Receiving Days—August and to the 14th, both inclusive. London Agent—James Bouriet, 17, Nassau Street, Middlessel Hospital. Works of Art intended for exhibition, and all communications, must be addressed to the Curator, Mr. Charles Dyall, Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool. Forms and further particulars may be had on application.

JOSEPH RAYNER, Town Clerk, Hon. Sec.

SAVOY HOUSE.—GALLERY OF ENGRAVINGS by the and Colour Printing, from the Paintings of the English, French, German, and Continental Schools. Catalogues post-free on application to the Manager, at the Gallery, Savoy House, 115 and 116, Strand, London, W.C.

SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.—FIFTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION NOW OPEN, at the SUFFOLK STREET GALLERIES, Pall Mall East, from 9 to 6 daily. Admission, 58.

THOS. ROBERTS, Secretary.

DORÉS GREAT WORKS, "ECCE HOMO" ("Full of Divine dignity."—The Times) and "THE ASCENSION," with "CHRIST LEAVING THE PRÆTORIUM," "CHRIST ENTERING JERUSALEM," and all his other great pictures at the DORE GALLERY, 35, New Bond Street. Daily 10 to 6. 1s.

INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

The FORTY-SIXTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION is now OPEN from nine till dusk. Admission, 18. Catalogue, 6d.

Gallery, 53, Pall Mall, S.W.

H. F. PHILLIPS, Sec.

THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—
The NINETY-FOURTH EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN. From 10 till 6.
Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d.
Pall Wall Fast
Pall Wall Fast 5, Pall Mall East.

HANOVER GALLERY, 47, New Bond Street (Entrance from Maddox Street), NOW OPEN. Hans Makart's Great Pictures—Entry of Charles V. into Antwerp; The Silver Wedding of the Emperor and Empress of Austria; and other Pictures by Eminent French Artists. Admission is. Descriptive Catalogue, 6d.

WHITSUNTIDE ARRANGEMENTS.—LONDON

BRIGHTON AND SOUTH COAST RAILWAY—EXTENSION OF
TIME FOR RETURN TICKETS for distances over to miles.
EXTRA TRAINS (1st, and, and and Class) from London on Saturday, May 15th,
returning the following Monday and Tuesday.

PORTSMOUTH and ISLE OF WIGHT.—CHEAP TRAINS,
Saturday, May 15th, to Havant and Portsmouth from Victoria 1.0 p.m., and
London Bridge 2.30 p.m., returning the following Tuesday.
A CHEAP TRAIN on Whit Sunday, from London Bridge 8.0 a m., calling at New
Cross, Norwood Junction, and Croydon; and from Victoria 7.50 a.m., calling at
Clapham Junction, to Arundel, Littlehampton, Degnor, Chichester, Havant, and
Portsmouth returning the same day.
A CHEAP TRAIN, Whit Monday, from London Bridge and Victoria 7.30 a.m., to
Havant and Portsmouth.
Return Fares between London and Portsmouth Town and Havant, 11s., 7s. 6d., 5s.;
Portsmouth Harbour, 12s., 8s., 5s. 6d.

HASTINGS, ST. LEONARD'S, AND EASTBOURNE.—
CHEAP TRAINS on Whit Sunday and Whit Monday, from London Bridge, calling at New Cross and Croydon; and from Victoria, calling at Clapham Junction.
Fare there and back, 55. calling at New Cross and Fare there and back, 5s.

BRIGHTON.—EVERY SUNDAY, A CHEAP FIRST-CLASS TRAIN from Victoria 10.45 a.m., calling at Clapham Junction and Croydon. Day Return Ticket, 10s. SPECIAL CHEAP TRAINS on Whit Sunday and Monday from London Bridge, calling at New Cross; from Victoria, calling at Clapham Junction and Croydon. Fare there and back, 4s.

TRYSTAL PALACE.—FREQUENT DIRECT TRAINS

Obaily to the Crystal Palace from London Bridge and New Cross; also from Victoria, York Road, Kensington, West Brompton, and Chelsea.

For full particulars of Times, Fares, &c., see Handbills and Time Books, to be had to see the second at all Stations, and at 28, Regent Circus, Piccadilly, where Tickets may be obtained.

J. P. KNIGHT, General Manager.

MIDLAND RAILWAY.

TOURIST ARRANGEMENTS, 1880.

FIRST and THIRD CLASS TOURIST TICKETS, available, with some exceptions, until 31st December, 1880, will be issued until 31st October, 1880.

For particulars, see Time Tables and Programmes, issued by the Company.

For particulars, see Time Tables and Programmes, issued by the Company.

General Manager.

Derby, April, 1885.



A SEA MESSENGER

Besides the shipping disasters of which intelligence is received, either because they take place within sight of land, or because some persons escape to tell the tale, there are every year a number of ships which, together with their inmates, disappear as utterly as if they had vanished into space. Many of these cases are little heeded by the public; but sometimes their interest is strongly aroused, as with reference to H.M.S. Atalanta, which, with three hundred and twenty human lives on board, has disappeared, and all the diligent searching of the Channel Fleet has failed to discover any trace of her. To the friends and relatives of such vanished crews suspense is even more torturing than the certainty of death; hence shipwrecked men, on the brink of eternity, have often in the last extremity cast overboard bottles containing some hastily scrawled record of their desperate condition. Sometimes these missives are found and read, more often they are dashed against rocks, or the water gets in and sinks them. Besides, silly and mischievous persons throw sham messages into the sea, and it is difficult to distinguish between the false and the true, and hence much anxiety and miscry has been caused. BESIDES the shipping disasters of which intelligence is received,

caused.

Pondering over these matters, Mr. Julius A. R. Vanderbergh, of Portsmouth, some years ago invented a Sea Messenger, which is free from the defects of the improvised bottle. Our sketch indicates the nature of the contrivance. Its appearance is so conspicuous that it would be visible at a considerable distance; and the list of persons on board, &c., would be placed in it before beginning the voyage in case of emergency. As it is capable of carrying 60 lbs. weight, valuables could be enclosed in it, and thus money, jewels, &c., could be preserved for the friends of those wrecked, instead of being irreparably sunk at the bottom of the sea. In each Messenger a printed sheet is enclosed, giving instructions (in seven languages) to the finders; and at foot, as on a telegraph form, is a space for the final message to be written. The advantages of this ingenious little contrivance are so obvious that we hope, before many years, all vessels will carry them. vessels will carry them.

THE OXFORD ELECTION

THE OXFORD ELECTION

It is a curious circumstance that Sir W. V. Harcourt, who a few years ago stoutly opposed the abolition of the statute by which members accepting Crown appointments have to resign their seats in the House of Commons, should be the only Cabinet Minister now unseated by its operation. We have in another column commented on the result of the Oxford election, and therefore we will here confine ourselves to a brief resume of the incidents of the contest, some of which our artist has depicted.

The local excitement, very great from the moment it became known that the Home Secretary's seat would be disputed, was intensified on the nomination and polling days, and the only apparent effect of the minatory notice issued by the Vice-Chancellor and Proctors was to increase the zest with which the University men joined in the fun. They hung banners and placards from their

windows, and such of them as managed to get beyond the college walls were amongst the loudest and most active of the street demonstrators. Collisions between the contending political factions were, of course frequent enough

demonstrators. Collisions between the contenuing pointed were, of course, frequent enough.

One of these has been drawn by our artist. It took place in the old quadrangle of Christ Church, affectionately known as the "Peckwater Quad," where a solitary Liberal attempted to rescue a banner from a number of Conservatives who had captured it. Though overmatched in point of numbers, he pluckily held on to it for several minutes, in fact, until it was torn shred by shred from his determined grasp.

it for several minutes, in fact, until it was torn shred by shred from his determined grasp.

The "favourite on both sides," shown in another sketch, is the Duchess of Marlborough, who drove about the town on Friday in an open carriage and four, preceded by an outrider. Both candidates delivered addresses, which were listened to and applauded by immense audiences, both before and after the polling; the mildness of speech in the latter orations contrasting most favourably with the bitterness which had been exhibited while the result yet remained doubtful. On Friday night a great torchlight procession was formed to escort Sir W. Harcourt to his hotel.

HATFIELD HOUSE-II.;

THE EQUESTRIAN COURT FESTIVAL AT VIENNA; AND

ARTILLERY CROSSING CABUL RIVER See page 489.

THE REV. DR. DONALD FRASER

THE KEV. D.K. DONALD FRASER

The chosen Moderator of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of England, which has just held its annual session, is the second son of the late Provost Fraser, of Inverness. He was born in 1826, and educated at the University of Aberdeen, of which he is a graduate. After his Ordination in 1851, he took charge of a large Presbyterian congregation in Montreal; but returned in 1859 to his native town, and became Pastor of the Free High Church in the Highland capital

Highland capital.

After refusing many invitations (one of them, to be successor to the late Dr. Guthrie in Edinburgh), Dr. Fraser came to London in 1870. The Church in Upper George Street, Bryanston Square, soon proved too small for the congregation which gathered around him. It was therefore rebuilt, and enlarged to hold 1,700 sitters, and the present congregation is the largest of the Presbyterian order in England.

in England.

Dr. Fraser is one of the best known platform speakers in London, and is in great request for public meetings. He also contributes to magazines and reviews, and is author of a work, in three volumes, entitled "Synoptical Lectures on the Books of Holy Scripture;" the New Testament portion of which has been translated into Italian, and published at Florence.

In the Presbyterian Church of England Dr. Fraser is an acknowledged leader, having been chosen twice within six years to be Moderator of the Synod—the highest position which a Presbyterian minister can reach.

Dr. Fraser is married to the fourth daughter of the late Major-General A. Gordon, R.E., and has four sons and one daughter.

Our portrait is from a photograph by W. Notman, Montreal.

THE DISTRESS IN IRELAND

II.M.S. "GOSHAWK" OFF THE WEST COAST

Silips of war have so often crossed stormy seas and encountered all kinds of perils for the sake of carrying death and destruction, hat it is quite a pleasure by way of contrast to watch the proceedings of H.M.S. Goshazuk. She goes to fire broadsides at these Western islanders, but the broadsides consist of potatoes and clothing, so that the inhabitants are content to be shot at as often as possible, and, instead of keeping out of the range of fire, they crowd round the Goshazuk in their boats. These outlying people are especially to be pitied at a time of scarcity, as they lie so far from the main track of affairs, and, but for the visits of vessels laden with such welcome ammunition as this, they would run great risk of perishing from famine. Sittes of war have so often crossed stormy seas and encountered perishing from famine.

"EMBERS OF LIFE"

This (from a sketch by an officer of the Lively) is a touching picture of a Gorumna interior. Two naval officers, a surgeon and another, with a volunteer guide, were employed from the Lively (the flag of the Duke of Edinburgh) in visiting the sick only, making and administering Liebig's Extractum Carnis, and giving practical advice, &c. The various cottages differed much in degrees of cleanliness; in some the people were in a state of almost sullen despair, in others full of hopeful gratitude. Dirt, want of ventilation, and depression went hand in hand, following in the wake of famine. When we remember that, in the judgment of the new Chief Secretary for Ireland, the destitute districts will need help at least till this year's harvest is gathered in, we the more readily print these impassioned words from the officer who sent us this and other sketches, and has been face to face with all this wretchedness:—

wretchedness:-"Pictures reach the heart and sympathies more easily than words,
"Pictures reach the heart and sympathies more easily than words, pray therefore bring these miseries before the public, and prevent further loss of life in the West. Never mind the faults of the men, consider the women, and, above all, the poor little children. Good practical heads, prompted by kind hearts, are trying to prevent the recurrence of such a calamity, but meanwhile the present emergency must be faced." must be faced."

A FAMINE-STRICKEN PEASANT

No actual particulars have reached us of the incident here depicted, but its truthfulness is established by Major Gaskell's description of H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh's house-to-house visitation of portions of the sea coast district of Southern Galway. The inhabitants were uniformly and utterly destitute, and sorely in want of food, clothing, bedding, and seed. Major Gaskell describes the sad condition of the sick, lying, in almost every instance, on the straw on the damp floor of the cabin; here a man tending his wife and children, all ill with the fever in different stages; there a widow with two or three ill; in a third, a child and its mother ill with fever; in another, a woman and sick husband and large family of pale, half-naked children. All these had been relieved, and supplied with blankets and medical comforts. The people show heartfelt gratitude, and it is touching to see them on their knees imploring blessings on the donors of the bounty which they receive.

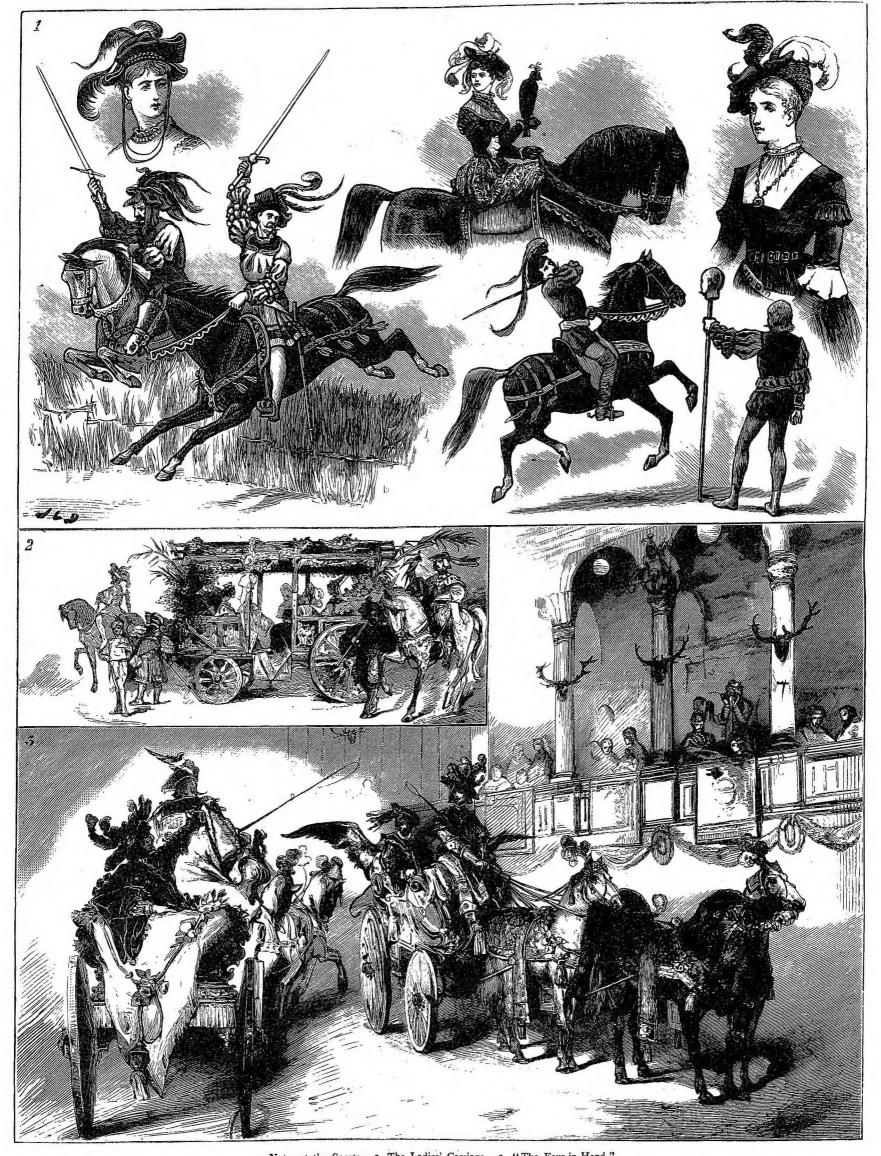
THE NEW MINISTRY See page 502.

"LORD BRACKENBURY"

A NEW NOVEI, by Miss Amelia B. Edwards, is continued on page 497.

TOBOGGANING AT CABUL

ENGLISHMEN are proverbial for carrying their own sports with them to every quarter of the globe in which they may be residing, and moreover are particularly fond of learning the sports of other nations, and importing them into whatever countries their line of life may lead them. Thus old Indians have brought polo and tent-pegging into fashion in England, and that exhilarating pastine of "Tobogganing," in which the Canadians in common with the Russians are such proficients, would doubtless have long ago become a popular sport in England were it not for the fact that the (Continued on page 490) (Continued on page 490)



I. Notes at the Sports,—2. The Ladies' Carriage,—3. "The Four-in-Hand."

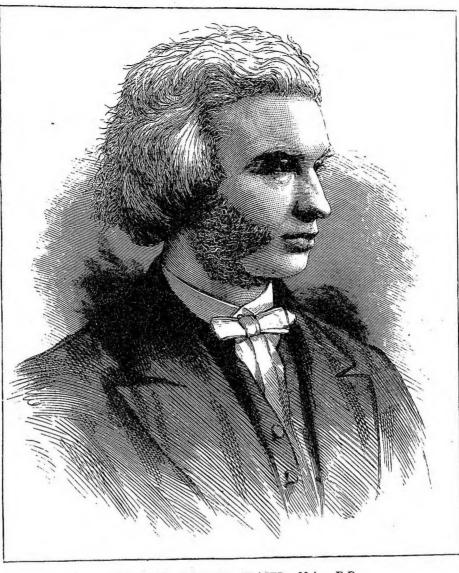
THE COURT EQUESTRIAN FESTIVAL AT VIENNA

HATFIELD HOUSE-II.

The picturesque park and gardens of Hatfield contain many objects of interest. Among the fine old trees are the "Lion Oak," more than thirty feet in girth, and supposed to be over 1,000 years old; and "Queen Elizabeth's Oak," planted by the man who brought her the news of Mary's death. The garden and vineyard were celebrated as early as the days of Evelyn and Pepys, whose diaries contain descriptions of them. The vineyard is entered through an avenue of yews, trained and cut so as to form a solid wall, with arches, towers, loopholes, and battlements like those of a fortress. The north front is the principal one, and the entrance on this side is by way of a spacious hall, which leads to the gallery or "Armoury," which formed the subject of one of our engravings last week. The "Marble Hall" is a magnificent apartment measuring fifty feet by thirty. It is lighted by three bay windows, rising to its whole height, besides the oriel at the upper end, near which the lord's table stood in the "golden days" of our ancestors. A massive carved screen runs the whole length of the hall at the east end, with an open gallery enriched with carvings of the heraldic insignia of the family. The room is panelled with oak, and the walls lined with splendid tapestry brought from Spain. The hall presents one of the earliest departures from the ancient open timber roof and louvre; the ceiling being coved, and its ten compartments filled with relievo heads of the Cæsars.

THE EQUESTRIAN COURT FESTIVAL AT VIENNA

RIDING festivals have been a favourite pastime with the Austrian Court for the last century and a halt, and in the time of Maria Theresa they attained to a standard of great magnificence, considerable sums being lavished on the carriages and horses and their harness. Under the present régime, also, there have been several noteworthy equestrian pageants, and notably that of last year in honour of the celebration of the Emperor and Empress's Silver Wedding. This year, on the 18th ult., however, there has been a Court Equestrian Festival in its true sense, as several members of the Royal Family and the first nobles of Austria themselves have taken part in it. The festival was organised for the benefit of the sufferers in the provinces from the failure



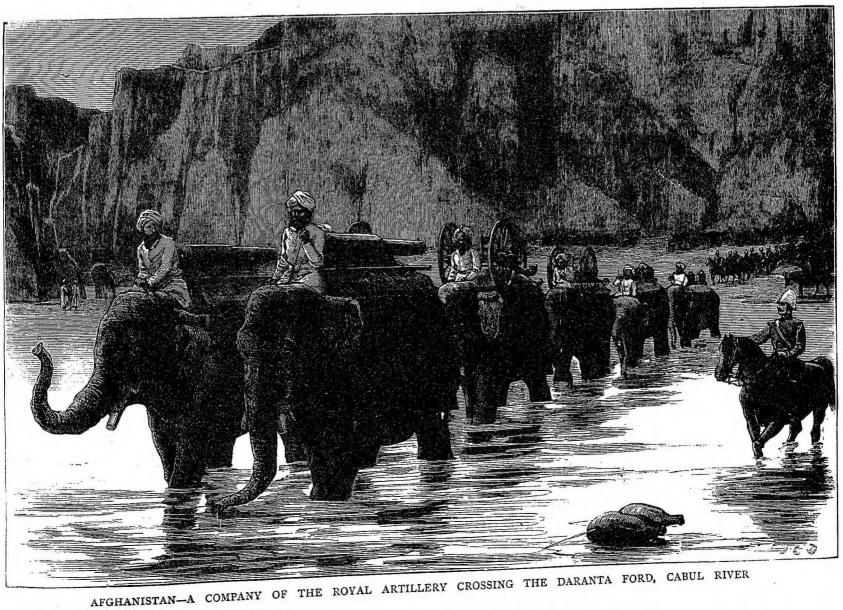
THE REV. DONALD FRASER, M.A., D.D., PASTOR OF THE MARYLEBONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, AND MODERATOR OF THE SYNOD OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ENGLAND

of the crops, and took place in the Riding School on the Michaeler Platz, Vienna, and was witnessed by the Emperor and Empress. The performance began with a procession comprising the Imperial Heralds, standard bearers carrying the banners of the pro- vinces to be benefited, and mounted drummers and trumpeter. Then followed a long string of the performers, who all wore costumes of the period of Maximilian I., beginnning with the hunters of the chamois, the stag, and the falconers. The last named were composed of two detachments of six mounted ladies and gentlemen, the one headed by the Archduke Wilhelm, the other by the Archduke Eugen. Six more ladies attended by pages followed, and then came the carriage filled with ladies depicted in our illustration. Nor were the bear and boar hunts unrepresented, while the procession was closed by the waggon containing the game, and by two four-in-hands driven by Prince Trauntunansdorf and Graf Török. After the procession had duly saluted the Emperor, the sports began. The falconers rode a quadrille, other equestrians performed marvellous and intricate figures; eight two-horse phaetons, driven by princes and nobles, went through various evolutions, which were varied subsequently by the four-in-hands; and then came a hunting scene, in which numerous hurdles were jumped by the hunters, singly, in pairs, and then eight at a time. The festival is said to have been a great success, and to have produced 6,000/.

ELEPHANT BATTERY CROSSING THE CABUL RIVER

THE CABUL RIVER

THIS picture represents the passage of the 3rd Company of the Royal Artillery across the Cabul River on their return from the Lughman Valley Expedition. Two guns of this efficient battery, under Major Magenis and Lieut. Granet, were mounted on ele- phants. The horses and drivers followed in rear, so that the guns could be horsed when the nature of the ground permitted. The elephants showed their proverbial sagacity by the careful manner in which they picked their steps across the rocky bed of this treacherous flood, where a month before five unfortunate troopers of the Carabineers had found a watery grave. The gun, carriage, limber, and eight ammunition boxes are hoisted on to the elephants' backs by fourteen stalwart gunners, the whole operation occupying about six minutes. When the guns of a field battery are mounted on elephants, the reserve ammunition is carried in boxes on camels.



snow is not deep nor hard enough for the purpose on our Gulf Stream warmed shores. At Cabul, however, where so many of our troops have been spending the past winter, the snows which lay on the hills inspired the idea of attempting the sport there, and as our picture, which is taken from a sketch forwarded by Mr. H. Riddell, depicts, tobogganing speedily became a favourite institution in camp.

THE REVIEW AT ALDERSHOT

On Wednesday week Her Majesty reviewed the troops stationed at Aldershot for the first time since 1878, when it may be remembered our forces had been strongly reinforced by the calling up of the reservists. Then the number of troops on parade mustered more than 13,000, while on this occasion the total number was only 6,728, although the total strength of the division at Aldershet is 10,644. Thus 3,916 were absent, or 37 per cent., and this, The Times remarks, "on an occasion when Her Majesty was expected, and when officers' and mess servants, cooks, tailors, shoemakers, orderlies, and fatigue men were ordered to fall into the ranks." From this it may be easily imagined what is the condition of an ordinary regimental parade, when the Lieutenant-Colonel finds the majority of his men absent upon other duties, and, indeed, on a certain day this month, a battalion paraded with only 84 privates, its strongest company mustering 16, its weakest 7 men. Whether or no the instruction given under such circumstances is adequate, we leave more competent judges to decide, but it certainly must be said that the troops acquitted themselves exceeding well when parading before Her Majesty. The Queen arrived at Aldershot at four o'clock, being accompanied by the Princess Beatrice and the Duchess of Connaught, and at once took her station at the saluting point beneath the Royal Standard. As usual the march past was the first item in the programme, and then followed the ordinary review manœuvres, in which it would be invidious to single out any special regiment for praise, save, perhaps, to chronicle the opinion of the able writer of The Times, that "the Artillery were the finest body of men on the ground; batteries admirably horsed, horses admirably groomed, harness well polished, and all chainwork glistening like silver," and that "the Cavalry Brigade are already showing the effects of Sir Frederick FitzWygram's admirable handling. Their final charge in line drew forth unbounded applause." The Rifle Brigad



The Policy of the Government. —Sir C. Dilke, speaking at a complimentary dinner given to him the other day at Chelsea, said that the foreign policy of the Government would be one of firmness consistent with due respect to the rights of other nations. There would be no swagger in it—what was said would be meant. Mr. Chamberlain, speaking at the same gathering, said that not a single promise which any one of the Ministry had made should be forgotten. A Government representing every shade of Liberal opinion could not be expected to move as fast as the more advanced section would desire, but the direction in which it moved should be the right one. Speaking at the Devonshire Club banquet on Wednesday, Lord Hartington reminded his hearers that the Government had inherited a succession full of difficulty and embarrassment, and cautioned them not to form too extravagant hopes of what might be accomplished during the short remainder of the Session.

Lord Granville's Circular Note to the European Powers has not yet been published, but it is asserted that it draws attention to the fact that several provisions of the Treaty of Berlin are still unfulfilled, and calls upon the Powers to act in concert to bring about its full execution, adding that a sense of her dignity precludes England from waiting for other Powers to take the initiative.

Mr. Gladstone and submissive note to Court Wester and submissive note to

about its full execution, adding that a sense of her dignity precludes England from waiting for other Powers to take the initiative.

MR. GLADSTONE AND AUSTRIA.—The publication of the new Premier's apologetic and submissive note to Count Karolyi, following so close upon Mr. Fawcett's retractation concerning the late Government and the Indian deficit has excited feelings of disappointment (to use a very mild term) in the minds of all, whether Conservatives, Liberals, or Radicals. The daily press is almost unanimous in its expression of surprise and indignation at England being so humiliated in the eyes of Europe, Mr. Gladstone's only defenders being the Ecno, which is however constrained to admit that "we should have preferred that he had been less suppliant in attitude and less humble in tone;" and the Pall Mall Gazette, the new conductors of which, while allowing that it is a "regrettable episode" protest against "unreasonable persistent criticism of Mr. Gladstone's apparent concession to Austria, by people who overlook Austria's important concession to Mr. Gladstone, viz., that that Government has no desire to extend or add to the rights it has acquired under the Treaty of Berlin."

The Re-Elections,—Most of the members of the New Government have now been re-elected, and all will doubtless be so, with the single exception of Sir W. V. Harcourt, whose rejection by Oxford we have spoken of in "Our Illustrations" columns. Some of the re-elected Ministers have issued addresses thanking their constituents, amongst these is Mr. Gladstone, who assures the electors of Midlothian that the political professions he made among them before the General Election have now become in their general sense and spirit honourable engagements which he will do his best, as occasion offers, to redeem.

The Conservative Party, both members of the present Houses of Parliament and those who lost their seats in the Lower

THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY, both members of the present Houses of Parliament and those who lost their seats in the Lower Chamber at the recent election, will assemble on the 19th inst., at the residence of the Earl of Ellesmere, to hear an address from Lord Beaconsfield on the aspect of affairs, and the duty of the Conservatives Conservatives.

Conservatives.

THE HOME RULERS.—At a meeting of Irishmen held in South London on Monday, under the presidency of Mr. A. O'Connor, M.P., a resolution was passed congratulating the Liberals on the result of the General Election, but blaming the Premier for "sectionalism" unworthy of a great statesman in not having a responsible position either in the Cabinet or the Ministry filled by an Irishman. A protest was also made against "the illiberal and intolerant enactments which prevent Catholics from holding certain offices under the Crown."

THE IRISH LAND LEAGUE has been condemned in strong terms

holding certain offices under the Crown."

THE IRISI LAND LEAGUE has been condemned in strong terms by Dr. Moran, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Ossory, who in a pastoral just issued says that the aim of the designing men who seek to sow discord in our ranks is nothing less than to open an abyss between the priests and the people of Ireland; and that, for such men, the Land League is merely a mask for Fenianism.

THE DISTRESS IN IRELAND.—Mr. Forster, the new Chief Secretary for Ireland, on Saturday replying to a deputation from the Dublin Mansion House Relief Committee at Dublin Castle, said that should the action of the Board of Guardians be found insufficient to cope with the distress, the Government would do so.

MR. HERBERT GLADSTONE has been returned for Leeds without opposition, and has been appointed one of his father's private secretaries, without salary.

THE MARQUIS OF RIPON and his staff left London for India THE MARQUIS OF RIPON and his staff left London for India on Wednesday, vià Paris and Brindisi. On the previous Friday the new Viceroy received a deputation from the Council General on Education in India, whom he assured that his conduct in dealing with the subject of education would be guided by the two fundamental principles of the constitution of India: never to interfere, directly or indirectly, with the religion of the native races; and to observe entire impartiality between the various Christian bodies which exist in India. which exist in India.

which exist in India.

SIR GEORGE POMEROY COLLEY, K.C.S.I., C.B., the newly-appointed Governor of Natal, was entertained on Tuesday at the Langham Hotel at a banquet given by a large body of South African colonists. Sir H. Barkly, who presided, spoke hopefully of the results of the forthcoming conference of delegates of the colonies in regard to the question of federation, and wished Sir George might have the pleasure of assisting a work which would result in consolidating our South African empire.

Mr. LOWE, who is to be pleasted to the page age by the title

MR. LOWE, who is to be clevated to the peerage by the title of Viscount Sherbrooke, took leave of the University of London on Wednesday. The graduates have before them three candidates from whom to choose his successor, viz., Sir J. Lubbock, Sir George Lessel, and Sir William Gull. George Jessel, and Sir William Gull.

George Jessel, and Sir William Gull.

ENFRANCHISEMENT OF WOMEN. — The Women's Rights demonstration at St. James's Hall last week was a decided success, the Great Hall being crowded, and an overflow meeting being held in another part of the building. The Viscountess Harberton presided, and the list of speakers, who all addressed both meetings, included Mrs. Scatcherd, Mrs. A. Arnold, Mrs. Webster, and the Misses Becker, Garrett, and Helen Taylor. As we shall again revert to the subject next week, when we hope to publish some sketches taken at the meeting, we need now only say that the lady orators were enthusiastically eloquent, and that their remarks were received with every indication of unqualified approval by the immense audience, amongst whom only a very few men had been admitted, paying 2s. 6d. for the privilege.

The VOLUNTEER SERVICE attains its majority this year, having

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THE VOLUNTEER SERVICE attains its majority this year, having been established in 1859, and there is some talk of celebrating the event by a review in Hyde Park, at which it is hoped Her Majesty will be present. Should the project be carried out, not less than 50,000 volunteers would probably attend.

THE TAY BRIDGE INQUIRY was on Saturday last adjourned sine die to enable the Commissioners to consider their report, which will be addressed to the Government and published officially.

be addressed to the Government and published officially.

THE ARTISTS' GENERAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION held its sixty-first annual dinner on Saturday last, under the presidency of Lord George Hamilton. Sir F. Leighton responded to the toast of the Royal Academy, and Mr. Godwin for other Societies connected with the Fine Arts. The subscriptions amounted to 2,800.

MR. ALFRED TENNYSON has now finally declined to become a candidate for the Lord Rectorship of Glasgow University unless nominated by a body of students bearing no political party name, accepted on his literary merits alone, and released from the necessity of presenting himself for installation.

THE LARGUE MARKET.—Mr. Chamberlain has resigned him

of presenting himself for installation.

THE LABOUR MARKET.—Mr. Chamberlain has resigned his post of President and Arbitrator of the Wages Board of the South Staffordshire Iron Trade, owing to his new duties as a Cabinet Minister. The arrangement of a new sliding scale is, therefore, postponed until a new arbitrator is elected.—The strike of the Liverpool dock labourers is now over, and the men have returned to work, the dispute having been submitted through arbitrators to Lord Derby as umpire.—The weavers of North-East Lancashire threaten to go on strike if they do not receive an advance equal to that accorded to the spinners in February last. The strike will affect 50,000 men. affect 50,000 men.

WRECK OF THE "AMERICAN."—On Monday news came THE WRECK OF THE "AMERICAN."—On Monday news came from Madeira that the Union Company's mail steamship American, while on her voyage to the Cape, foundered off the Coast of Guinea on April 23rd, in consequence of her after compartments being damaged by the breaking of her screw shaft. The whole of the passengers and crew left the ship safely in eight boats, three of which were picked up two days afterwards by the British and African steamer Congo, which arrived at Madeira on Saturday last. It is hoped that the other five boats reached land in safety. They were provisioned for from five to eight days, and would probably steer for Cape Palmas, about 180 miles distant.



THE denationalisation, so to speak, of the English stage would appear to be progressing at a rather alarming rate; for while two distinguished companies of French performers are preparing to appear at the GAIETY, and a Dutch company and a German company are also on the way, the managers of the PRINCE of WALES's Theatre have chosen to give a performance of a French comedy in verse which claims attention on the ground of its being sustained "by English artistes." Novelty has in itself a charm for a certain order of minds, and although a close scrutiny of the playbill led to the discovery that two of the "English artistes" were not English, but French, there was still enough left to marvel at in the fact that the rest of the troop who had thus undertaken to perform M. Augier's L'Aventurière were English ladies and gentlemen well known upon the London stage. Foremost among these is Miss Généviève Ward, of whose skill in the French tongue we have lately been reminded in so many quarters, and on such frequent occasions. Miss Ward, indeed, appears to be directly responsible for the project, and it has at least served the purpose of exhibiting her proficiency in this way. We may add that it has also shown that Mr. Beerbohm Tree can speak and act very well in that language, and that Mr. St. Maur, moreover, can acquit himself creditably in the delivery of French verse, and can sustain a part in a French play with spirit and ease. Beyond this it is not easy to say much in favour of this experiment. Miss Ward's impersonation of the Adventuress wants subtlety and refinement. It was hardly to be distinguished, save by her eccentric black wig and still more eccentric costume, from the malignant and aggressive personage whom she represents with so much power'of a painful kind in Forget-Me-Not; and it must have left the thoughtful spectator at a loss to conceive wherein had lain the potent charm which had held captive the respectable Monte Prade. Whether this performance is to be repeated we do not know; but it is clear that pe

DRURY LANE.—At the close of the performance of La Fille de Madame Angot, last Saturday evening, a new and exceedingly

picturesque ballet d'action in two scenes, entitled Les Sirènes, was produced. The story, acted of course in pantomime, turns upon the adventures of a fisher-boy who is, by the engulfing of his boat in an eddy, introduced to the gorgeous haunts of the sirens and sea-folk supposed to people the depths of the Mediterranean. Such a subject on the Drury boards naturally gives scope for a wide play of imagination in stage scenery and grouping, of which full advantage is taken by the present management. The sirens fascinate the fisher-boy, not by song, but by the grace and variety of their silent and marvellous motion in dancing, the artistic grouping of themselves and their attendants, and the lovely nature of their submarine surroundings. Mdlle. Palladino exhibits astonishing agility and vigour in her performance of Naila, Queen of the Sirens, with whom the fisher-boy, charmingly acted by Miss Percival, falls in love. The dancing of both ladies, well supported as they are by "grotesque slaves" and attendants, elicited frequent and hearty applause from a large and appreciative audience. The music of the piece is written by Messrs. Wallerstein and L. Delibes; the dances are arranged by Mr. J. D'Auban, the scenery by Mr. Cuthbert, and the whole is produced under the direction of Mr. A. Harris. Altogether the spectacle is produced on a scale worthy of the traditions of old Drury.

Miss Ellen Terry will take her benefit at the Lyceum on Thursday, the 20th inst. The pieces will be The Merchant of Venice, 191st performance (terminating with the "Trial Scene"), and Islanthe, an idyll in one act, adapted and rewritten by W. G. Wills from Henrick Herz's poem, "King Réné's Daughter," in which Mr. Irving and Miss Ellen Terry will play.

The Grecian announces for Saturday, May 22, an original drama by Mr. Henry Pettitt, entitled The Missing Witness, with novel effects. Mr. J. H. Clynds and Mr. George Sennett are engaged for the piece.



THE TURF.—More genial weather has attended the Newmarke Second Meeting, which, notwithstanding the absence from the programme of any event of great moment, produced better all-round racing than did the gathering on the historic Heath a fortnight ago. The opening day was a disastrous one to backers, as in the Burwell Stakes Merry-go-Round, the favourite, was last out of four runners, Pride of the Highlands winning easily from Boughton, Lyric could only get second to Censer in the Visitors' Plate, Tristan in the Breeders' Plate reversed his Epsom running, and beat Angelina, who started with 2 to 1 on her, and in the Spring Handicap the Mrs. Waller colt, the least fancied in a field of seven, came in first. The day will be long remembered for the grand form shown by Fordham, who rode five winners out of seven races, and was placed in the other two. If we may look ahead so far it would seem that Tristan's form in the Breeders' Plate would make M. Lefevre dangerous in the 1881 Derby. The most interesting event of Wednesday's racing was the Payne Stakes for three-year-olds. Twelve came to the post, and on the strength of their recent running in the Two and One Thousand, Abbot and Elizabeth were made first favourites, the latter carrying 7 lbs. extra. By running second and third they justified the favour shown them, but the winner turned up in Mask, who started at 15 to 1, and who only a fortnight ago was absolutely last, if we remember rightly, in the race for the Two Thousand. Of all the many surprises which have happened this year on the Turf, none has been greater than this, as it was considered on all hands that Mask had hopelessly lost his two-year-old form.—At York the Great Northern Handicap fell to Lord Zetland's Ellangowan, who started first favourite in a field of eight.—Bend Or still heads the list in the Derby market, and is likely to do so till the start, unless some mishap befalls him.—After his excellent performance in the Payne Stakes at Newmarket Abbot supplanted Bay Archer as first favourite for the THE TURF.—More genial weather has attended the Newmarke econd Meeting, which, notwithstanding the absence from the

was of English lineage, being a daugnter of Cambuscan and water Nymph.

CRICKET.—The M.C.C. have held their annual meeting and dinner, and opened their season with two "Colts" matches. The first was against the Middlesex youngsters, in number twenty, with Mr. P. M. Thornton as captain. They made a fair show with the bat, scoring in the first innings 160—a total exactly equalled by the M.C.C. They could not, however, put together more than 69 in their second attempt, which the M.C.C. rubbed off with the loss of only two wickets. The second match was against the Colts of All England, drawn from almost all the great cricketing counties. They were a very fair lot, and the M.C.C. had to put up with a single innings and 81 runs defeat.—At Oxford the Eleven showed themselves superior to Sixteen Freshmen, but were beaten by the "next" Sixteen by an innings and 78 runs.—At Cambridge the First Twelve, in their match with the "next" Sixteen, were far behind their antagonists on the first innings; but, following on, put together 317, of which the Hon. Ivo Bligh made 124—the first big score of the season. He was not so fortunate, however, in the match between the University and an All-England Eleven, as his figures were two "ducks." The Visitors scored an easy victory in one innings, Mr. F. Penn marking 66.

AQUATICS.—The result of the May races at Oxford leaves Magdalen at the head of the river. a place they took on the first

Mr. F. Penn marking 66.

AQUATICS.—The result of the May races at Oxford leaves Magdalen at the head of the river, a place they took on the first day of the races. This is the first time the College has held this proud position, though it has had a crew on from the commencement of these races.—The sculling match between Hanlan and Courtney is anticipated with keen interest in America, and great curiosity is felt as to the new "rig" which it is said Courtney has "fixed" to his boat. It may be taken for granted, however, that it is in no sense a "motor," but only some mechanical assistance in the working of the sculls, as the sliding seat is in the working of the

-Whatever credit may attach to remaining in a SWIMMING. -SWIMMING. — Whatever credit may attach to remaining in a tank of water, maintained at a temperature of 86°, for thirty consecutive hours, Miss Beckwith is fairly entitled to, having completed this self-imposed task at ten o'clock on Saturday night last. But, as we have often said, we are no friends of these mere endurance feats, which answer little or no good purpose. No ordinary mortal is ever likely to find himself or herself in a tank of warm salt water with the obligation to float in it for even five minutes to save life.

PEDESTRIANISM. — From certain correspondence which has

PEDESTRIANISM.—From certain correspondence which has taken place, it is possible that the coloured man Hart, the winner of the recent six days' contest in New York, and John Dobler will be matched against two Englishmen, Rowell and Brown, for a considerable sum. Rowell wishes the match to come off in this country, and other pedestrians to be allowed to join in. It is said

in America that E. P. Weston will have no more to do with these long-distance contests, unless Englishmen will make it well worth his while. But surely we have had enough of this sort of thing.

BICYCLING.—The six days' (twelve hours per day) ride at Edinburgh resulted in the victory of C. Terront, of Paris, who scored 920 miles; W. Cann, of Sheffield, being second with 911. There were eight competitors.

were eight competitors.

Lacrosse.——This game, so well illustrated on its introduction into England by the Canadian team and the Indians, seems to be making progress, judging from the programme sent us by the committee of the Lacrosse Athletic Meeting, set down for to-day (Saturday) at Stamford Bridge. They have three open events, including a bicycle race, in which every well-known rider has entered; and five club races, the most novel amongst them being a Lacrosse race and throwing the Lacrosse ball, in the first of which the medal given by Earl Dufferin will be competed for; and "an exhibition of the game," of short duration, will be no mean finish to what promises to be an enjoyable afternoon's amusement. The band of the 1st London Rifle Brigade will be in attendance.

WHITSUNTIDE CLUB-FEASTS

So long as Easter is maintained as a moveable feast—although the framers of the Gregorian Calendar were almost disposed to assign it to a fixed day—so long will the date of Whitsuntide be affected thereby. This year it falls upwards of a fortnight earlier than it did in the past year; but, whatever weather may be in store for us on Monday, May 17th, it can scarcely be worse than the unpropitious weather that greeted the Whitsuntide excursionists on Monday, June 2, 1879, when a persistent downpour of rain damped all outdoor pleasures, flooded the camps of the Volunteers, and put a stop to trips on the river. It seems a pity that the Bank Holidays at Easter and Whitsuntide—especially the latter—should be made to coincide with the Ecclesiastical Calendar, when a somewhat later date would secure a greater chance of fine weather, and a certainty that the country would be in fuller luxuriance of summer foliage. But, as things are now ordered, the Bank Holiday excur-

at on outcome piesaures, mooted the camps of the Volunteers, and put a stop to trips on the river. It seems a pity that the Bank Holidays at Easter and Whitsmitide—especially the latter—should be made to coincide with the Ecclesiastical Clandar, when a somewhat later date would secure a greater chance of fine weather, and a certainty that the country would be in fuller luxuriance of summer foliage. But, as things are now ordered, the Bank Holiday expressionists will have to wait from May 17 to August 2 before many of them get the race opportunity of a peep at the country; whereas it is would have brought them not only to the fongast day, but very close to Midsummer Day.

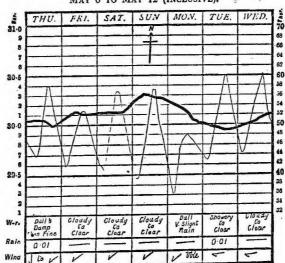
But the Whitsmitde Club-feast is altogether independent of Dank Holiday, and is wholly dependent upon the season of Whitsun, or Witson—the etymology and meaning of the word being very disputed, and a subject into which I do not now enter; though the words "Whit Sunday," which still appear in Whitaker's, De la Rue's, and other almanacks for the present year, must be regarded as a misprint for Whitsun Day or Whitsunday. Without discussing the etymology of the word it is sufficient here to state that the entrevol Linear that Commands, and that our modern pagnar or villagers are merely keeping up a custom that has been handed down to them from remote generations when they make Whitsuntide a time of festivity. The Club-feast that is held in so many thousands of country villages on Whitsun Monday or Tuesday is an English institution of great antiquity.

This year, the "Whitsun bosses,"—as the country-folk familiarly call the large snowballs of bloom of the Guelder Rose—will not have put in an appearance in time to be utilised for the floral decorations of these white favours, the procession round the small town or village, bearing wands and carrying banners, and present soil, and give the special procession from the summary of the pagnate should be approached by a band of music, where the blare of brazen instruments achieves in loudness what is lacki

revel," any more than the dinner held in the same room, after the cricket-match, would result in a similar prolongation of unhealthy festivities. If the parson of the parish will not countenance the club's proceedings because of its public-house dinner, experience shows that the club will be contented to dine without his chairmanship, and will probably also give up "walking to church," so that more harm than good may be done by the withdrawal of his fellowship and co-operation on such an annual occasion. Legh Richmond, when at Turvey, in Bedfordshire, used to regard the Whitsuntide Club Festival as a very important day in his ministerial life. The three clubs that he had founded walked in procession to church on Whitsun Monday, with their garlands and banners; and, after preaching to them, he dined with the members at the inn, where he took the chair and gave the chief toasts.

Such a Club-feast was, in a certain sense, a love-feast. And, in fact, the Whitsuntide festivals can be traced back to the Pentecostal acapta; or love-feasts of the primitive Christians, though mediaeval Miracle-plays and Whitsun ales. The Whitsuntide sports and tournaments of the days of the Conqueror were, in Edward the First's time, merged into the Mysteries and Miracle-plays, such as The Creation, The Deluge, The Fall of Lucier, and The Harrowing of Hell. The nearest modern approach to these ancient Mysteries will be found in the performances of the Ober Ammergan Passion Play, which, for the present year are fixed to begin on Whitsun Day, May 16th. The representations of four or five centuries ago may appear to us to be somewhat grotesque and profane; but, in those illiterate ages, the Whitsuntide plays had their use in making the common people better acquainted than they might otherwise have been with certain portions of Sacred History, even though mechanical effects and stage tricks had to be restored to; as, for example, when tame white pigeons were trained to fly "in strings from heaven," to represent one of the choic events of t

WEATHER CHART FOR THE WEEK MAY 6 TO MAY 12 (INCLUSIVE).



EXPLANATION.— The thick line shows the variations in the height of the Barometer during the past week ending Tuesday midnight. The fine is shows the shade temperature for the same interval, and gives the maximum and minimum readings for each day, with the (approximate) time at which they occurred. The information is furnished to us by the Meteorological Office.

REMARKS.—We have had another week in which the wind has been continuously north-easterly or easterly—dry as a rule, often very cloudy during the day, but clear and cold in the nights. Thursday (6th inst.) was damp during the greater part of the day, and on Tuesday (11th inst.) a smart shower passed over London during the morning. In the course of the past day or two, however, the air has begun to feel softer than it did during the earlier portion of the week, and a gradual change to warmer weather seems probable. The barometer was highest (30 30 inches) on Sunday (9th inst.): lowest (20 94 inches) on Tuesday (11th inst.); range, 0.76 inches. Temperature in the shade was highest (60°) on Tuesday and Wednesday (11th and 12th inst.); lowest (36°) on Monday (10th inst.); range, 24. Some frosts have occurred on the ground at night. Rain fell on two days. Total amount, only o'02 inches. Greatest fall on any one day, o'or inches.

Prince Christian did the Hospital for Women the honour to preside at their anniversary dinner on Thursday last at Willis's Rooms. His consort, the Princess Helena, takes great interest in this institution, which has done good work in treating very successfully the diseases to which women are liable. Its object is also to afford private patients the opportunity of entering a hospital by paying a moderate sum and there receiving first-class treatment at a very much less cost in than in their own dwellings. The committee have had a severe struggle to arrive at their present position. They have a mortgage of 8,000% on the buildings in Soho Square. About 1,300% was subscribed.

The Female Orphan Asylum is one of the oldest of London charities, having been founded in 1758 by a well-known metropolitan magistrate, Sir John Fielding. Most Londoners will remember the building in the Lambeth Road, where now stands the Lincoln Tower and Christ Church. As population increased and the green fields disappeared, the neighbourhood became less suitable for an asylum, and as the site was valuable, and the charity had been enriched with a certain number of legacies, the Committee secured in 1866 the ancient and beautiful mansion of the Carews at Beddington, celebrated for having been the residence of Queen Elizabeth, and well worth a visit at this season of the year, when the old May trees that adorn the park are in full bloom. The Duke of Cambridge was absent from indisposition, but the claims of the orphans were eloquently advocated by Mr. A. H. Phillpotts, the Chairman, on the occasion of their Annual Festival, held on Tuesday last, at "The Albion," in Aldersgate Street.



GEORGE SAND'S CORRESPONDENCE is being collected for publi-

A BUST OF MAJOR CHARD is amongst the exhibits of the Grosvenor Exhibition. It is executed by Mr. Edgar G. Papworth, and was taken from sittings given simultaneously with those given to Mrs. Butler for her picture.

to Mrs. Butler for her picture.

PRUSSIAN CRIMINALS OF MEANS are no longer to live at the public expense. The thrifty Teutonic authorities require prisoners who can afford it to pay 6d. daily for their board and lodging in the summer months, and 6½d. during the winter.

FASHIONABLE SUMMER FANS IN AMERICA are shaped like the leaf of a lily, and have long tapering handles, similar to those of the Japanese fly fans. They are made of transparent crape, or the thinnest silk in pale colours, and ornamented with some very light device.

light device.

SHAKESPEARE'S "MERCHANT OF VENICE" AND "OTHELLO," which have lately been translated into Bohemian, have proved so popular that a second edition of the translation has been brought out. Longfellow's "Hiawatha" and "Evangeline" have also been rendered into Bohemian.

LITERARY MATINÉES are now the fashion in Paris, where visitors assemble from four to six in the afternoon, the *Parisian* tells us, to discuss current literature, listen to readings, and discreetly admire the good, bad, or indifferent unpublished literary productions offered for the judgment of the company.

HERR MAKART, the Austrian painter, is now finishing another colossal picture, "The Hunt of Diana," which has lately been exhibited at his studio in Vienna. The work represents Diana and her nymphs suddenly arrested in their pursuit of a stag by the animal plunging into a lake, whose Naiads rise from the waters to protect the hunted creature.

the hunted creature.

SPRING IN SWITZERLAND is unusually mild this year after an exceptionally hard winter. Thus last week an American lady and and gentleman crossed the Wengernalp from Grindelwald to Lauterbrunnen on horseback as easily as in August, while a day later two gentlemen rode across the Great Scheideck from Meyringen without meeting with any hindrance from the snow.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE WOMEN'S DEBATING SOCIETY.—On Tuesday Mrs. Fawcett, who is President of this Society, which numbers upwards of seventy members, and meets every three weeks, read a paper on "Some Defects in the English Land System," in which she advocated the prohibition, save in a few specified cases, of all settlements of land. An animated discussion followed.

COPPER IN SOUTHERN INDIA has lately been found in con-

of all settlements of land. An animated discussion followed.

COPPER IN SOUTHERN INDIA has lately been found in considerable quantities, particularly in the Calastry and Vencataghery districts, and the ore which has been tested contains an average of 42½-per cent. of pure copper, even the ore picked up on the surface showing 8'1 per cent. As Cornish ores yield only from 3 to 5 per cent., and the Cape copper ores 20 to 30 per cent., this product seems likely to afford a mine of wealth to the Presidency.

MISS NORTH, whose drawings of tropical plants and foliage.

seems likely to altord a mine of wealth to the Presidency.

Miss North, whose drawings of tropical plants and foliage are well known, has gone for a two years' journey to Borneo, Australia, and New Zealand, to paint the vegetation of those countries. Meanwhile, the building which she is about to present to the nation, and which is destined to contain all her vast collection of oil-studies, is in course of construction at Kew Gardens, under the superintendence of Sir J. Hooker. The building is from an Oriental design by Mr. Ferguson.

The Land of Runne — At Kinghorn Fifeshire on Wedness.

building is from an Oriental design by Mr. Ferguson.

The Land of Burns.—At Kinghorn, Fifeshire, on Wednesday last, a public concert was given, at which the recent Liberal successes were duly commemorated. An original Liberal song was sung, and the Fifeshire Advertiser considers it so good that it publishes it in extenso. The refrain is

Charlie Scott got an awful sell,
And went off in a hurry;
It's awful, but Sir George Campbell's
The member for our burgh.

We learn for the first time that Campbell is accentuated on the last syllable, and that "burgh" is pronounced "burry."

London Mortality slightly increased last week, and 1.416

We learn for the first time that Campbell is accentuated on the last syllable, and that "burgh" is pronounced "burry."

London Mortality slightly increased last week, and I,416 deaths were registered against 1,387 during the previous week, an increase of 29, being 133 below the average, and at the rate of 20'2 per 1,000. These deaths included 10 from small-pox (a decline of 8), 22 from measles (a decrease of 9), 67 from scarlet-fever (an increase of 32), 15 from diphtheria, 67 from whooping-cough (a decline of 11), 21 from different forms of fever (an increase of 8), 13 from diarrhoea (an increase of 1). There were 2,823 births registered against 2,559 during the previous week, exceeding the average by 210. The mean temperature of the air was 47'1 deg. and 2'6 below the average. The duration of registered bright sunshine was 27'3 hours, the sun being 105'0 hours above the horizon.

A Marble Fragment from the Parthenon at Athens—the gift of the King of the Hellenes—is to be encrusted in the pedestal of the Byron Memorial, inscribed with the single word "Byron." The statue itself is to be erected as speedily as possible in Hamilton Gardens, Hyde Park, and will temporarily occupy a wooden pedestal until the arrival of the five blocks of rosso antico which have been presented by Greece, and have been quarried and brought to the sea coast, near Cape Matapan, whence they will be shipped to England. No further inscription will be placed on the Memorial, except the date and the circumstances of its erection. Should Lord Beaconsfield, the Chairman of the Committee, be unable to inaugurate the statue, it will simply be unveiled without any ceremony.

The COMEDIE Francaise has got into hot water with the any ceremony.

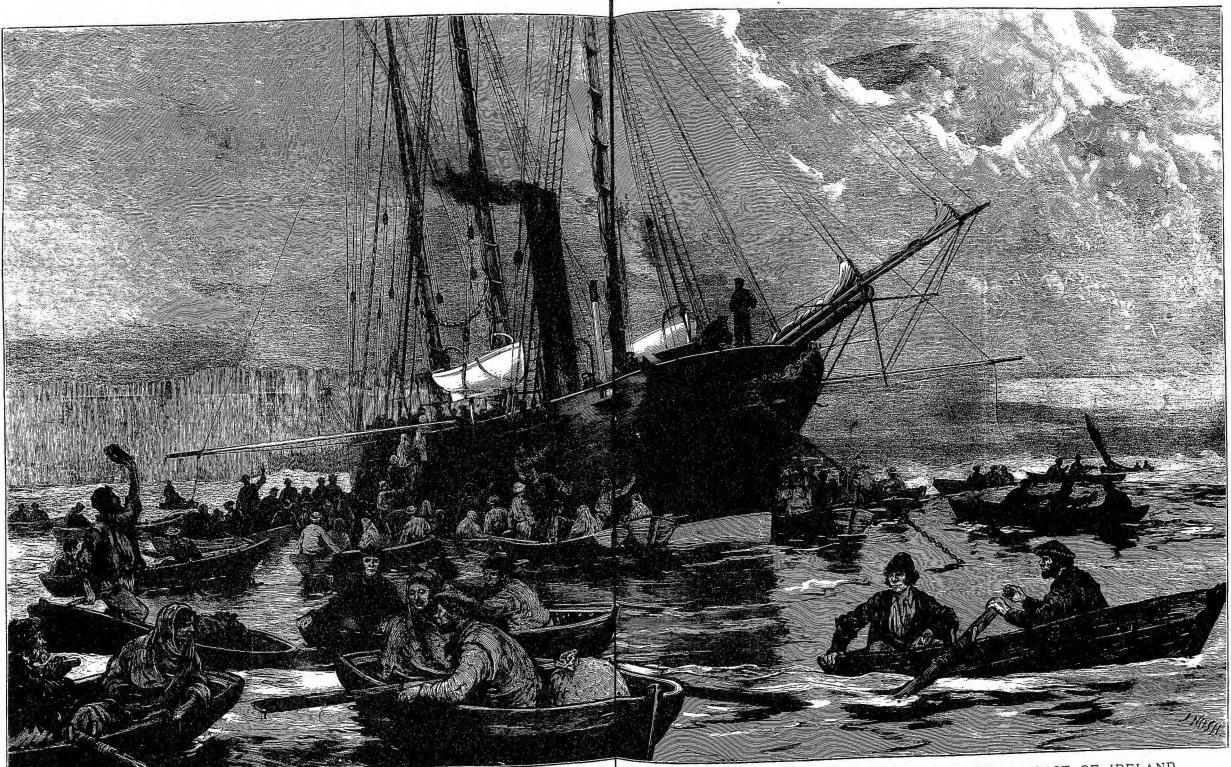
any ceremony.

THE COMÉDIE FRANÇAISE has got into hot water with the French Budget Commission for not keeping up the honour of the house by playing the classical repertoire more often. As the manager of a State theatre, the director is obliged to appear yearly before this Commission; and M. Perrin's management was also sharply criticised for studying high receipts more than fame, and omitting to bring out novelties. The chief offence, however, was the production of unlucky Daniel Rochat, which was declared to be an attack on the laws of the country, brought out most unfittingly at a State institution; and although M. Perrin pleaded that he had first submitted the piece to the Fine Art Minister, he was told that its representation on the boards of a subventioned theatre was a perfect scandal.

An Interesting Collection of British and Foreign

scandal.

AN INTERESTING COLLECTION OF BRITISH AND FOREIGN WAR MEDALS, gathered together by Lieut.-Colonel Eaton, is now being exhibited at the Dramatic Gallery, New Bond Street, for the benefit of the Guards' Industrial Home. There are some 1,000 medals, decorations, and badges, which form a complete history of the medals of Great Britain from 1650 to the present time. Foreign decorations are also amongst the collection, which includes such rewards of valour as Arctic medals, the Victoria Cross, &c., while the navy medals commence from those struck to commemorate Lord Howe's victory over the French in 1794. Amongst the most curious medals are one struck after the Battle of Dunbar, bearing the head of Cromwell on the obverse, with the date September 13, 1650, and on the reverse a representation of the House of Commons in Session, and the Culloden Gold Medal, with the head of the Duke of Cumberland.



WITH THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S RELIEF SQUADRON-ARRIVAL OF HMS. "GOSHAWK" WITH STORES OFF THE WEST COAST OF IRELAND BETWEEN ACHILL AND CLARE ISLANDS



AFFAIRS IN THE EAST.—The energy of the new British Cabinet in issuing a Circular Note to the Powers urging the necessity for an immediate settlement of the various provisions of the Berlin Treaty which have not yet been carried out, and the despatch of Mr. Goschen on a special mission to Constantinople, have somewhat confounded those prophets who augured that henceforward England would withdraw from any active interference in foreign affairs, and that the initiative in all active policy would be left to affairs, and that the initiative in all active policy would be left to other nations. The chief of the three questions, namely, the Montenegrin, the Greek, and the Armenian, with which the Note deals, is at present the Montenegrin, as it has been complicated by the insurrection, as it may now be called, in Albania. By the Berlin Treaty a certain portion of Albania was to be ceded to Montenegro by the Porte, but as the districts named were peopled by Mahomedans who objected to be handed over to Christian rule, negotiations were begun and concluded for the cession of a portion of Christian Albania. Unfortunately, the Christians there were Latins, who hate the Greek Church with all the fervour of religious foundations, and the proposed transfer met with no more favour from fanaticism, and the proposed transfer met with no more favour from them than it had from the Mussulmans. Nor was the Porte in any degree anxious that they should be satisfied with the change, so that there is little doubt that the Turkish commanders gave every facility to the Albanians to seize upon the positions as they were evacuated by the Turkish troops, and thus oppose armed resistance to the incoming Montenegrins, who were compelled to retire to within their own frontier. Turkey was at once requested to reoccupy the their own frontier. Turkey was at once requested to reoccupy the territory and hand it over to the Montenegrins, but the Albanians, who appear to be well armed and regularly organised, have now raised the standard of independence, and demand to be recognised as a separate nationality, just as the Powers have recognised Montenegro, Servia, and Bulgaria. Here then is a new factor in the hydra-headed Eastern Question upon which none had reckoned, and which threatens to give considerable trouble. It has been proposed that Italy should occupy the disturbed districts in the same manner that Austria has taken charge of Bosnia, but, as it is felt that Italy would scarcely care to surrender them ultimately, the idea has not met with universal approbation. As for the other questions, the not met with universal approbation. As for the other questions, the negotiations between the Porte and Greece have been so protracted and utterly fruitless, that unless the Powers interfere it is manifest that no peaceable result can ensue; while as for the reforms in Armenia, no steps whatever have been taken to relieve a nationality which is far more deserving of assistance than many other of the Christian communities, and which obtained less owing to its eminently peaceable and domestic character. peaceable and domestic character,

To turn to Constantinople itself, the Albanian question is being

To turn to CONSTANTINOPLE itself, the Albanian question is being actively discussed in Ministerial Councils, and troops are being sent to the front, but there is little chance of any active steps being taken at present. The doctors appointed to examine Veli Mahomed, the assassin of Colonel Cummerau, have reported that he is perfectly sane, and sentence of death will probably be passed upon him. In Eastern Roumella brigandage appears to be gaining more and more ground, and the movement has attained to such an extent in the Eastern Balkans that it almost amounts to an insurrection, the bands being wholly Mahomedan.—BULGARIA also, whose soldiers by the way are charged with a raid upon Aidos in Eastern Roumelia.

by the way are charged with a raid upon Aidos in Eastern Roumelia, has been complaining to Roumania that bands of brigands cross over from the Dobrudscha and ravage her territory, an accusation denied by Roumania. No little comment has been excited by the nomina-

by Roumania. No little comment has been excited by the nomina-tion of Prince Alexander of Bulgaria as a Russian Lieutenant-General and aide-de-camp of the Czar.

In Austria as, indeed, throughout Europe, Mr. Gladstone's letter of apology to Count Karolyi for the hard words which he used towards Austria during the electoral campaign in Midlothian has created no little surprise. Austria herself is greatly pleased, but the other nations appear to think the step somewhat undignified, more particularly the French and German Press, the Paris *Temps* remarking that the Prime Minister of to-day disavows the candidate of yesterday, and that the letter seems to be a confession of the Premier's versatility and frivolity as a statesman; while the Berlin National Zeitung is of opinion that "for the foreign policy of the Government the recantation of Mr. Gladstone is a bad omen."

GERMANY, however, has plenty of her own affairs to discuss just now, as Prince Bismarck has been again defeated in the Reichstag, notwithstanding that for the first time for ten months he appeared in Parliament, and made one of his characteristic hard-hitting speeches. The occasion was the proposal to shift the German customs boundary from its present position below the Free City of Hamburg to a point on the Elbe above the city—a course which would naturally cause no little inconvenience to vessels trading to Hamburg. A Royal Commission which had been appointed declared that no change could be made without the consent of the Reichstag, which had been appointed declared that the change could be made without the consent of the Reichstag, which the consent of the Reichstag, which without the consent of the Reichstag, which we was contracted without the consent of the Reichstag, which is the matter was entirely within the Prince Bismarck declared that the matter was entirely within the authority of the Federal Council, or Bundesrath. He speedily, however, left the actual question itself, and made a tremendous onslaught upon the Reichstag, and the Centre Party in particular, onstaught upon the Reichstag, and the Centre Party in particular, for opposing him, 'declaring that the Clericals had for the last six months voted against the Government, asking the National Liberals whether it was advantageous to support Particularism, and warned them against breeding "dispeace between the Governments." For thirty years he had supported German unity, and was now in the position of a Minister who was hated by all because he had remained in nower, having for the last eighteen years wrestled in the position. thirty years he had supported German unity, and was now in the position of a Minister who was hated by all because he had remained in power, having for the last eighteen years wrestled in turn with all parties. As therefore he saw that the power of the Centre was insuperable, and as he was "weary, dead weary," he would propose to the Emperor to take a Cabinet from the Centre and Conservatives. He himself, however, would not stand calmly by and behold the Empire which he had helped to found retrogressing, so that, he added, "Do not ask for my co-operation, if each of you feels himself justified and called upon to call in question the foundations of the Empire." The Prince then left the House, not waiting to hear any reply, and next day the Reichstag—now pretty well used to the Chancellor's threats—referred the Government Bill back to Committee, which, as the Reichstag does not meet until next January, is equal to postponing it sine die. The truth of the hostility to Prince Bismarck is undoubtedly that in the course of his long career he has allied himself in turn with each party, and in turn disappointed each of its reward, so that there is scarcely a faction which does not owe the Chancellor a grudge. Moreover, notwithstanding all the fine talk about German unity, the Particularist feeling is far from extinct, and the other German States have still a rooted objection—which they dare not openly exhibit—to be absorbed into what is virtually a Prussian Empire.

The monument to Goethe at Berlin is to be unveiled on June 1, before the German Empire.

The monument to Goethe at Berlin is to be unveiled on June 1, before the German Emperor and Empress. The Empress Augusta was intimately acquainted with Goethe in her youth at Weimar, her father, the Grand Duke of Saxe-Weimar, being the

great triend and patron of the poet.

FRANCE.—The Advanced Radicals and the Socialists having proposed to hold a grand mourning demonstration on the 23rd inst. in commemoration of the outbreak of the Commune in 1871, the Government has announced that no meetings on that day will be permitted. Nevertheless, there is a general feeling of apprehension springing up with regard to the revived Communist

agitation, which is openly carried on by several ultra-papers, and which is supposed to be one of the main causes of the various strikes which are prevailing in the provinces. At Roubaix and Tourcoing a hundred or so of the manufactories have been closed, and some 20,000 men are out of work, while it is stated that the strikers are being amply supplied with money from the Belgian frontier. It is only fair to say, however, that this money is variously reported to come from the English, who are anxious to profit by the closing of the French factories from a manageable of Pretender desirous of forment. the French factories, from a monarchical Pretender desirous of fomenting a rising, and from the Socialists. Still, it is certain that considerable disorder prevails in the district, and thousands of strikers openly cross the frontier from Belgium with contraband goods, unchecked by cross the frontier from Belgium with contraband goods, unchecked by the Custom House officers, who are afraid to interfere, the smugglers singing ironical songs as they pass by laden with groceries, tobacco, and petroleum, which are much cheaper in Belgium than in France.—There is very little stirring in political circles, the only Parliamentary item of interest being the voting of a Bill giving communes-with more than 20,000 inhabitants an additional seat in the Departmental Councils—a measure which is considered as paving the way for the abolition of the system of voting by arrondissement at Parliamentary elections, for at present no arrondissement with 100,000 inhabitants returns more than one deputy.

elections, for at present no arrondissement with 100,000 inhabitants returns more than one deputy.

None of the non-authorised religious communities have as yet applied for the license required by the decrees of March 29, and the monks of Chartreux are said to have even rejected proffered letters of authorisation, stating that they are ready to share the fortunes of the other Orders. If these monks leave France, there will be a loss of some 40,000. to the French revenue, and of 200,000. annually to the poor, as the monks are the makers of that famous liqueur, Chartreuse. It is said that they have been offered an asylum in England. The Religious Orders are apparently waiting to see what action the Government will take; and, if expelled by force, are stated to be prepared to bring actions against the Government for breach of to be prepared to bring actions against the Government for breach of the rights of domicile and private property. The Government, how-ever, is reported to have foreseen this, and will take its measures

PARIS is rejoicing over the prospects of a great fête day on June 20, when the new colours are to be presented to the troops, and a public holiday is to be decreed. There will be a grand State ceremony, though where it is to be held has not been definitely decided. There has been another epidemic of murders in Paris, and a curious attempt has been made on the life of Madame Zulmar Bouffar, the well-known actress. Mdlle. Sarah Bernhardt still continues to be the dramatic heroine of the day, and the Théâtre Français was crowded on Saturday to see her rôle in the Aventurière taken by Mdlle. Croisette, who was generally pronounced to have fairly filled the part, the criticism on which led to the impetuous Sarah's resignation. The only first representations of note have been a historical drama, the Sainte Lique at the Catté by MM. Georges Prichard and Emile La Sainte Ligue, at the Gaîté by MM. Georges Prichard and Emile Launet, a series of pictures of French history up to the assassination of Henri III., and a five-act melodrama at the Cluny by MM. Cogniard and Clairville, entitled Les Compagnons de la Truelle.

—The well-known novelist, Gustave Flaubert, died on Monday, and the death of another litterateur, M. Edouard Fournier, is also

announced.

ITALY.——All parties are busily engaged in electioneering, for as the budgets are only voted to the end of May Parliament must meet on the 26th inst. The ministers have been energetically addressing their electors, and explaining the chief points in the programme, while the Opposition, headed by Signor Sella, have been energetically attacking the Ministerial policy. Great bitterness is being shown on both sides.

The Academy of St. Thomas Aquinas was opened on Saturday at Rome by Cardinal Pecci, the Pope's brother, who read the inaugural address.

inaugural address.

Sicilian vines are suffering greatly from the Phylloxera, which made its appearance only two months ago near the little town of Riesi, and has done enormous damage. The insect was introduced by two shoots from French vines bought at Palermo three years ago, and it has been found that the Phylloxera develops six weeks earlier in Sicily than in France, although happily the ravages are somewhat checked by a parasite, the Hoplophora.

AFGHANISTAN. — General Stewart has now assumed the supreme command in Cabul, and Sir F. Roberts has gone with an expedition to the Logar Valley, and will return by way of Maidan. All is quiet, pending the arrival of the reply to a communication which has been made to Sirdar Abdurrahman at Kunduz. There is the idea of Moosa Khan being taken to Cabul. This, however, as negotiations are to be carried on with Abdurrahman, is immaterial. The whereabouts of Mahomed Jan are unknown.

There is considerable uneasiness prevailing amongst the tribes round Candahar, and the Governor, Shere Ali Khan, is making a tour round the affected districts. His army, however,

making a tour round the affected districts. His army, however, notwithstanding the six guns and 2,000 muskets given to him by the Viceroy, is hardly sufficiently strong to maintain order.

Lord Lytton will await the arrival of Lord Ripon at Simla, where he will hand over to him the reins of Government next month. The Indian Press have been freely criticising their new Viceroy, and the Calcutta Englishman, though declaring itself fully satisfied, feels some surprise that the author of pamphlets on Vaticanism should have conferred a post of high trust on a convert to Roman Catholicism. The Times of India, while admitting this, remarks that he is a practised politician, and has been a man of affairs, and failing Lord Dufferin, there is probably no one on the Liberal side more fitted for the post.—The Commander-in-Chief has published a highly critical and unfavourable memorandum on the report of the Army Commission.

UNITED STATES,—An interesting speech, showing the prosperity

Army Commission.

UNITED STATES.—An interesting speech, showing the prosperity of the people of the United States, was made on Tuesday by Mr. Sherman, the Secretary of the Treasury. He pronounced every department of industry and commerce to be flourishing, and estimated the surplus receipts of the coming year at 20,000,000. In agriculture and manufactures no country could vie with the United States. It was only the ship-building trade which needed encouragement, three-fourths of American commerce being at present conducted under foreign flags. To correct this should be the primary object of American Statesmen. Referring to the currency question, he declared that the mixed currency of paper and gold was always redeemable, and he considered it the soundest they had ever had. There is little other news, save that the electioneering campaign is There is little other news, save that the electioneering campaign is being vigorously carried on by both Republicans and Democrats, and it is stated that a concession for a Nicaraguan canal has been granted to American contractors

MISCELLANEOUS.—In SWITZERLAND a part of the St. Gothard Tunnel has fallen in, and three workmen have been killed.—In BELGIUM there is an outbreak of small-pox in Antwerp, Diest, Jumetz, and Gilly. The Minister of the Interior has declined to make vaccination compulsory, but lymph is being distributed gratuitously,—In CANADA the Parliament has been prorogued by the Marquis of Lorne, who congratulated the Dominion on recovering from its recent compressed decreases. Marquis of Lorne, who congratulated the Dominion on recovering from its recent commercial depression.—In SOUTH AFRICA Parliament has been opened by Sir Bartle Frere, who has announced that Bills will be presented for convening a conference on the confederation of the South African colonies, sanctioning the annexation of Griqualand West, extending the system of railways, improving harbours, and dealing with the detention of Cetewayo and Secocoeni.

In Case the village of Son Luis has been destroyed by fire, and arbours, and dealing with the detention of Celewayo and Decedential Fig. 1. Cuba the village of San Luis has been destroyed by fire, and 1.000 persons rendered homeless.—In Australia the Victorian Parliament was opened on Wednesday by the Marquis of Normanby.



THE QUEEN entertained numerous prominent members of the Government at Windsor at the end of last week, and also received Lord Lyons. Her Majesty and the Princess Beatrice, while driving Government at Windsor at the end of last week, and also received Lord Lyons. Her Majesty and the Princess Beatrice, while driving out in a wagonette and pair, had a narrow escape from a serious accident, one of the horses getting its leg over the bar of the carriage and kicking violently. The Queen and Princess had to alight, and eventually the horse was released and another substituted. On Saturday Her Majesty gave audience to Lieut-Col. Marter, who presented some relics from the battlefield of Isand-Iwhana, and next morning the Queen, with Princess Beatrice and Prince Leopold, attended Divine Service in the private chapel. The Dowager Marchioness of Tweeddale dined with her Majesty in the evening. On Monday Earl Granville had an audience of the Queen, and introduced M. Léon Say, the new French Ambassador, Madame Say being presented by the Countess Kimberley, while subsequently the Peruvian Minister presented his credentials, and Mr. Gould kissed hands on his appointment as Minister to Belgrade. In the evening Her Majesty entertained the Duke of Argyll, Lady Evelyn Campbell, and the Marquis of Hartington at dinner. The Queen and Princess Beatrice on Tuesday came up to Buckingham Palace, where Her Majesty was joined by Princess Christian and held a Drawing Room, at which the Royal Family and the foreign Princes now staying in London were present. The Queen wore black silk embroidered with white, and trimmed with satin and chenille, the usual white tulle veil and diamond ornaments; the Princess of Wales was in gold brocade over the same coloured satin with Indian ornaments; Princess Christian's dress was black satin and jet; and Princess Beatrice wore pale pink satin with a velvet gauze train trimmed with black lace and blushroses. Afterwards the Grand Duke of Hesse and his two eldest daughters visited Her Majesty, the young Princesses going with Princess Beatrice and Prince Leopold to the Opera in the evening. On Wednesday the Queen and Princess Beatrice spent the morning at the Royal Academy, and in the aftern

the late King of Hanover has been placed by the Queen in St. George's Chapel.

The Prince of Wales on Saturday went down to North Woolwich to visit the Victoria and Albert Docks, where he minutely inspected the works and machinery, and opened the sluices for admitting the waters of the Thames into the docks. Afterwards he went to the Dramatic Gallery to the private view of Lieutenant-Colonel Eaton's collection of British and Foreign War Medals, while the Duke of Edinburgh and the Hereditary Prince of Schaumburg-Lippe called at Marlborough House. On Sunday the Prince and Princess of Wales and their family attended Divine Service at the Chapel Royal, St. James', and the Duke of Hesse and the Princesses Victoria and Elizabeth arrived on a visit to the Prince and Princess, and were met at the station by the to the Prince and Princess, and were met at the station by the Prince and the Duke of Edinburgh, while Prince Leopold visited Prince and the Duke of Edinburgh, while Prince Leopold visited them later in the day. In the afternoon the Prince and Princess and the Grand Duke were present at the performance of L'Aventurière by an English company at the Prince of Wales's Theatre; and in the evening the Prince and Princess with their two boys, the Grand Duke of Hesse and his daughters, the Duke of Edinburgh, and Prince Leopold went to the Gaiety Theatre. On Tuesday night the Prince and Princess and the Grand Duke went to the Haymarket Theatre. Last (Friday) night the Prince was to dine with Sir George and Lady Wombwell.—Next week the Prince and Princess go to Truro to lay the foundation stone of the Cathedral, and will probably be accompanied by their two sons.

go to Truro to lay the foundation stone of the Cathedral, and will probably be accompanied by their two sons.

The Duke of Edinburgh returned from Ireland on Saturday, and was joined at Clarence House by his children, who had been staying with the Queen.—The Duke and Duchess of Connaght have gone to Switzerland, and are staying at Ouchy as Lord and Lady Sussex, the Duke being none the worse for his accident last week, when his horse shied and flung him out of his carriage. last week, when his horse shied and flung him out of his carriage. He will preside at the anniversary dinner of the Gardeners' Royal Benevolent Institution on July 7th.—The Princess Louise has received a congratulatory address on her return to Canada from the chief of the Abenacke Indians, a tribe settled at St. François-du-Lac, County Iberville, as well as a pretty basket of elmsplints.—Prince Leopold was expected to leave for Canada on Thursday in the Sardinian. He will shortly receive the freedom of the Vintners' Company.—The future bride of Prince William of Germany, Princess Victoria Augusta of Schleswig-Holstein, who has been spending some time in England, left on Saturday with her sister and her uncle, Prince Christian. They arrived at Potsdam next day, and stayed with the Crown Prince of Germany before going home to Primkenau, where the betrothal will be formally announced in about a fortnight.—Princess Frederica of Hanover and her nome to Frimkenau, where the betrothal will be formally announced in about a fortnight.—Princess Frederica of Hanover and her husband have gone home to their country house, Albert Cottage, Osborne.—The Duchessof Cumberland, youngest sister of the Princess of Wales, is stated to be far from well, suffering from nervousness, low spirits, and a bad cough. The Duchess and her infant daughter are going to spend some months in Denmark, while the Duke visits Italy.



THE BISHOP OF LINCOLN, speaking the other day at Budderwick, said that the Long Parliament opened 240 years ago resembled in some respects that which had been just elected. The churches and churchyards were then given up to Presbyterians, Independents, Baptists, and Fifth Monarchy men, and that was precisely what was about to be attempted in the country at the present time. If we allowed the churchyards to be surrendered in this way, we should open the floodgates of heresy and blasphemy.

THE REV. FATHER IGNATIUS, preaching at New Llanthony Abbey last Sunday, on the occasion of the annual pilgrimage thither by pilgrims from all parts of England, said that he was glad to hear that Mr. Bradlaugh had been elected a member of the House of Commons, because when Christian Englishmen saw such a phenomenon in the political atmosphere a feeling of inquiry would be excited, and when they had got on to their very worst, Christ would appear.

BANGOR CATHEDRAL, the restoration of which, from the designs of the lite Sir G. Scott, has now been completed, was re-opened on Tuesday, when the Masonic Lodges of North Wales and Shropshire presented Bishop Campbell with a throne bearing emblems of the craft. The preachers were the Bishop of Derry, Archdeacon Griffith, of Neath, and the Rev. D. Forrest, Vicar of St. Jude's, Kennington. On Wednesday a cantata, entitled *Prayer and Praise*, Kennington. On Wednesday a cantata, entitled *Prayer and Praise*, went of the opening were the musical festival services in celebration of the opening were to be continued during the week, the choir being supplemented by those of the Cathedrals of Chester, Hereford, and Asaph.

there of the Cathedrals of Chester, Hereford, and Asaph.

The Bishop of London's Fund.—The annual Conference of Clery and Churchwardens in furtherance of this Fund was held on Mon lay, when the Bishop, who presided, stated that notwithstanding the objection sometimes raised that they were building too many the objection sometimes raised that they were building too many the objection being urgently needed in many suburban districts. The modation being urgently needed in many suburban districts. The bishop of Bedford urged the necessity of providing additional clergy, especially for the East End of London; and Bishop Claughton spuke of the great value of the Lay Helpers' Association.

The Bishopric of Liverpool on St. Barnabas Day (June 11), in York Minster. Much disappointment is felt in Liverpool, where it was hoped the ceremony would be performed, but where it seems no suitable building can be found.

The Proposed Oxford Mission to Calcutta

suitable building can be found.

THE PROPOSED OXFORD MISSION TO CALCUTTA. — On Monday a meeting was held in the Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford, in support of this movement. Sir R. Temple, late Governor of Bombay, who was one of the speakers, said that we have already many thousands of Christian converts even in the newly-acquired provinces, whilst in the older they are reckoned by hundreds of thousands. Christian missions are producing excellent political effects, more good being done 'to India by the example of the missionaries than by our skilful administration.

THE MAY MEETINGS. — Continuing our list of these religious

offects, more good being done to India by the example of the missionaries than by our skilful administration.

THE MAY MEETINGS.——Continuing our list of these religious gatherings from last week, we have to note that on Sunday prayer meetings were held in various parts of London in connection with the United Kingdom Band of Hope; Monday saw the meetings of the British and Foreign Bible Society, the Protestant Reformation Society, the Christian Vernacular Society, the Church of England Scripture Reader's Association, the Ragged School Union, and the Total Abstinence Society; Tuesday those of the Young Men's Christian Association, the Church Sunday School Institute, the Itish Church Missions, the Society for Promoting Christianity among the Jews, the Seamen's Christian Friend Society, and the Portsmouth Soldiers' Institute; Wednesday those of the United Kingdom Band of Hope, the Royal Naval Female School, the Protestant Blind Pension Society, the Irish Evangelical Society, the Society for Training Teachers of the Deaf and Dumb, and the Festival Service and Banquet of the Corporation of Sons of the Clergy; and Thursday those of the London Missionary and the Corporational Missionary Societies.

Mr. Spurgeon on Sunday last preached to a congregation of "strangers," for whom the regular seatholders at the Metropolitan Tabernacle had been specially requested to make room by absenting themselves—a plan which has for some time past been adopted about four times in the year. The building was well filled, and Mr. Spurgeon spoke in his usual powerful style from the text, "With His stripes ye are healed."

A REMARKABLE FUNERAL was witnessed at Thurlaston on Sunday last. The remains were those of a woman who had been specially requested to make room by absenting themselves—a remained the sunday last. The remains were those of a woman who had been specially requested to make room by absenting themselves—a plan which has for some time past been adopted about four times in the year. The building was well filled, and Mr. Spurgeo

A REMARKABLE FUNERAL was witnessed at Thurlaston on Sunday last. The remains were those of a woman who had been murdered by her husband, who is supposed to have been insane, as he afterwards committed suicide. A special service was held in the Baptist chapel, which was crowded, the gallery being occupied by the children of the Sunday School in which the deceased woman had been a teacher for twenty years. The minister declared that they discarded the name of Davies, and buried their dear old friend as Elizabeth Woodward, in all her virgin purity. As for Davies, whatever his weakness of intellect, he had a determination, of malice aforethought, to take the life of his victim.

SIR JOHN GOSS, Mus. Doc., composer to Her Majesty's Chapels

SIR JOHN GOSS, Mus. Doc., composer to Her Majesty's Chapels Royal, and until lately organist of St. Paul's Cathedral, died on Monday in his eightieth year, after a long illness.

Monday in his eightieth year, after a long illness.

ROMAN CATHOLIC OFFICERS OF STATE.—The Committee of the Protestant Alliance have issued a form of petition to Parliament protesting against the appointments of the Marquis of Ripon to the Viceroyalty of India and the Earl of Kenmare to the post of Lord Chamberlain, which, they say, can only be regarded with indignation and alarm, and have already elicited earnest protests from all denominations. The Record hears that since public attention has been drawn to the matter, the Government have issued an order directing that during the occupancy of the office of "Lord Chamberlain" by the Earl of Kenmare the appointment of all Queen's Chaplains, and of the Lent Preachers in the Chapels Royal, shall be transferred to the Lord Steward (Earl Sydney); and, says our contemporary, it now remains to be seen whether public opinion will not also induce the Government to transfer all the Church of England appointments, and all dealings with the Bishops of Calcutta, Madras, Bombay, and Colombo, from the hands of the new Governor-General of India, to the Duke of Buckingham, the Governor-General of the Madras Presidency.



ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—Since our last reference to the doings at this establishment, Madame Albani has again shone as the "one serene and unapproached star." Lucia, Gilda, Margherita, and Amina have given way to Elsa, the ethereal heroine of Lolengrin, beyond comparison Wagner's brightest creation in the sphere of absolute womanhood—a creation, moreover, worthy any poet that could be named. How gracefully, with what admirable reticence when hope and wonder have chiefly to be expressed, and with what passionate fervour when in the scene of the bridal chamber the genuine woman, now openly revealed, tries vainly to wring from her despairing champion the secret of his name and origin, Madame Albani embodies the character from end to end, our opera-going readers know sufficiently well. Her acting on the present occasion was irreproachable, and her execution of the music, which (unlike that of Elizabeth in Tännhauser) is in all instances suited for her voice, never straining so as to fatigue it, was on a par with her acting. More than this, except that she created the same powerful impression as ever on the audience, Wagnerite, and non-Wagnerite, it would be superfluous to add. The Ortrud was Mullie. Pasqua, who, while showing real intelligence, has got something to acquire before investing that most forbidding personage with absolute poetical significance; nor can we imagine the physiognomy of Signor Cotogni, prepossessing as, in spite of any efforts to the contrary, it invariably is, fitted to create a lively impression of the equally forbidding Telramund. Signor Cotogni, however, sings the music, which, like that assigned to his partner in guilt, in accordance with Wagner's notion of the propriety of such things, is characteristically ugly, with commendable spirit and facility. Signor Gayarre's Lohengrin is fully up to the ordinary mark, and affords convincing proof that upon the study of the part he has brought all his best faculties to bear. No better King Henry than Signor Silvestri could be desired, no more sono

the Herald. Signor Vianesi conducted, and, on the whole, the performance, both choral and orchestral—except for those fierce partisans who, while continually shouting for Wagner's operas, are the least indulgent when they have got them—was calculated to satisfy the general taste. The Africaine, that melodious swan song of one of the most prolifically melodious of composers, gave the young soprano, Mdlle. Turolla, an opportunity of distinction which she strove her utmost to make the best of. The character of Selika is in all respects calculated to exhibit her personal individuality and as yet not fully matured artistic talent in the most favourable light. Meyerbeer himself, so hard to please where his own works were concerned, would have unreservedly commended and applauded her in more than one situation—the impassioned love duet between Selika and Vasco di Gama near the termination of Act IV., and the soliloquy of the unhappy Queen under the deadly shade of the Mancanilla, as special examples. In each of these trying scenes Mdlle. Turolla did more than enough to warrant high expectations of her future career—provided always that, not regarding herself as already perfect, she continues striving earnestly to attain the much-desired perfection. Mdlle. Valleria was an unobtrusive and charming Ines—a somewhat uninteresting character nevertheless, and much better fitted than the devoted and impulsive Selika as mate for the fickle and calculating Vasco di Gama. The Nelusko of M. Lassalle was appreciated at its merits last year, when the excellent French barytone first came among us, and it must suffice to add that what then won general approval is still more worthy of approval now. Lassalle's Nelusko may want the picturesque earnestness of his precursor, Signor Graziani, but, on the other hand, it is less exaggerated, and in a vocal sense superior. Signor Carpi as Vasco, and Mdlle. Valleria as Ines, both added to the general efficiency of the performance, which was heartily to be commended as one of the best that has

Signor Nicolini in the leading characters.

The Richter Concerts.—The first of the series of nine concerts directed by Hans Richter brought a large concourse of amateurs and professors to St. James's Hall on Monday night, when the reception accorded to the distinguished Viennese conductor was commensurate with his worth. The programme contained nothing new, the symphonies being Beethoven in C major and Schumann in D major, the overture that to Wagner's Meistersinger. In addition to these, Mr. Dannreuther introduced the pianoforte concerto in F sharp minor of Mr. Hubert Parry, to the merits of which, on the occasion of its introduction at a recent Crystal Palace concert, attention was duly called. Herr Richter has under command an orchestra of some hundred executants—a "scratch" orchestra, if we will, but still an orchestra of "some hundred." This large body of executants he guides with marvellous precision, as was more particularly exemplified in the overture to Wagner's would-be "comic" opera, which, intricate, difficult, and ungratefully-scored for the instruments as it is, was played throughout in absolute perfection. The same may be said of Schumann's D minor symphony, which Herr Richter almost seemed to play himself, so unlimited is his control of the orchestra. The ensuing eight concerts will be looked forward to with the utmost interest. That Herr Richter is the greatest conductor of the day can only be disputed by those ignorant of what the term "conductor" absolutely signifies.

WAIFS.—Dr. Hans von Bülow is again in London, and played to the last "Faure" of the Musical Huson on Tuesday afternoon.

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WAIFS.—Dr. Hans von Bülow is again in London, and played at the last "seance" of the Musical Union on Tuesday afternoon. His stay in London will, we understand, be very brief, as he must for some time be busily engaged abroad with his concerts in aid of the Wagner fund. That his efforts may be rewarded by the speedy production of Parsifal, the "last word" of the Oracle at Bayreuth, must be the wish of every one who entertains respect for disinterested enthusiasm.—At his first Pianoforte Recital (yesterday) Mr. Charles Hallé was to introduce the trio in E flat of Franz Berwald, a prolific Swedish composer very little known in this country, whose quintet in C minor created so strong an impression some twelve months ago.—At the annual Festival of the Sons of the Clergy held on Wednesday afternoon in St. Paul's there was a new service in A major by Mr. C. Villiers Stanford, organist of Trinity, Cambridge, and the anthem was Spohr's (Festival) in G, "How lovely are thy dwellings fair." There was the usual chorus of 250 voices, strengthened by a full orchestra, which played Mr. Arthur Sullivan's impressive overture, "In Memoriam," before the beginning of the service. Dr. Stainer as usual conducted.—It is believed that Herr Richter will conduct the performances of Lohengrin and certain other operas at Her Majesty's Theatre. The Richter Banquet is postponed until Wednesday, June 2, the Committee having found it desirable that ladies should also be invited, and the new arrangement involving necessary delay. It is unlikely that any gentleman intending to be present will object to this afterthought—least of all Herr Richter himself.



LAMBRI v. LABOUCHERE. — This case, in which the proprietor of Truth is charged with having published a false and defamatory libel reflecting on the character of Mr. Demetrius Lambri, by alleging him to be one of a gang of card-sharpers, is now being heard in the Queen's Bench Division, before the Lord Chief Justice and a special jury, and is not likely to be finished this week. On Tuesday and Wednesday M. Lambri himself appeared in the witness box and gave categorical denials to most of the statements which had been made against him, to the truth of some of which previous witnesses had sworn.

A NICE DISTINCTION was made by Viscount Mandeville when

witnesses had sworn.

A NICE DISTINCTION was made by Viscount Mandeville when under cross-examination the other day at the Hammersmith Police. The Viscount appeared to prosecute a man, who in the result was committed for trial on a charge of stealing five horses, three cabs, and some harness belonging to his lordship, and in reply to a question put by the defending counsel, is reported to have said that "he was not a cab proprietor, he was a cab owner."

that "he was not a cab proprietor, he was a cab owner."

THE MARCHIONESS OF QUEENSBERRY was this week the defendant in an action in the Common Pleas, the result of which should be noted by all persons who take houses by lease or agreement. The plaintiff sought to recover the rent of a house at Great Marlow, which Lady Queensberry had taken on an agreement. The defence was that the place was uninhabitable by reason of the defence was that the place was uninhabitable by reason of death-like," "offensive," and "like a dead Indian" (which Lady defence Dixie, one of the witnesses, had come across when Florence Dixie, one of the witnesses, had come across when travelling in South America). It was, however, ruled by Lord Coleridge, the presiding judge, that the agreement contained an Coleridge, the presiding judge, that the agreement contained an express bargain to take the house "in its then condition," and that express bargain to take the house "in its then condition," and that this would overrule any implied contract that might otherwise be

inferred as to a furnished house being fit for habitation. Verdict and judgment were accordingly given for the plaintiff.

Mr. Bradlaugh has obtained a summons against the secretary and one of the directors of the British Empire newspaper company for publishing an alleged libel, asserting that in one of his lectures he had said, "If there be a God let Him strike me dead within the next five minutes," and waited watch in hand until the time had expired. The article complained of goes on to discuss Mr. Bradlaugh's claim to "affirm" instead of taking the oath in Parliament, and remarks that it is ridiculous to suppose that conscience has anything to do with the matter.

Breach of Promise.—Two actions of this kind, in which thecircumstances were of a more than usually extraordinary character, have just been disposed of. In the first case, "Sans v. Whalley," the defendant, who appears to have been a confirmed and habitual drunkard, declared that he had no recollection either of signing the alleged promise or of his subsequent attendance before the altar, whence he was dragged by his relatives, after the clergyman had refused to perform the ceremony on account of his disgraceful condition. The jury, however, believed the lady's version of their acquaintanceship, and gave her 25t damages, which ought to be enough to console her for the loss of such a man as the defendant confessed himself to be. In the other case, "Jacobs v. Wolfe," the swain, who was a widower with half-grown-up children, had not only broken faith, but had added insult to injury by announcing, in the very same letter in which he declared off with the complainant, that he would like to marry her elder sister. Such is the variable nature of juries, that this lady got only only one farthing damages, although she had been so devoted to her lover that, to please him, she told the never-before-heard-of falsehood that she was thirty-eight years old instead of thirty-one.

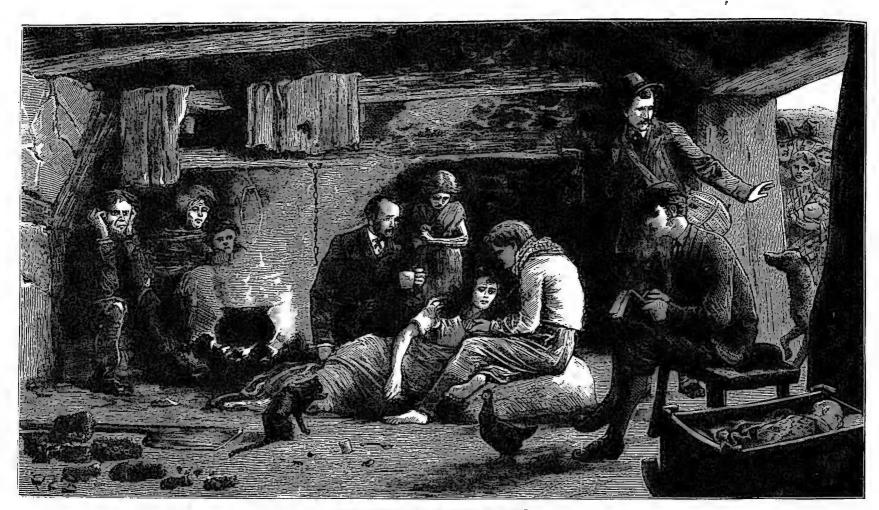
The Zulus still continue to give trouble to the London magistrates. One of the fierces

sewn up in his clothing.

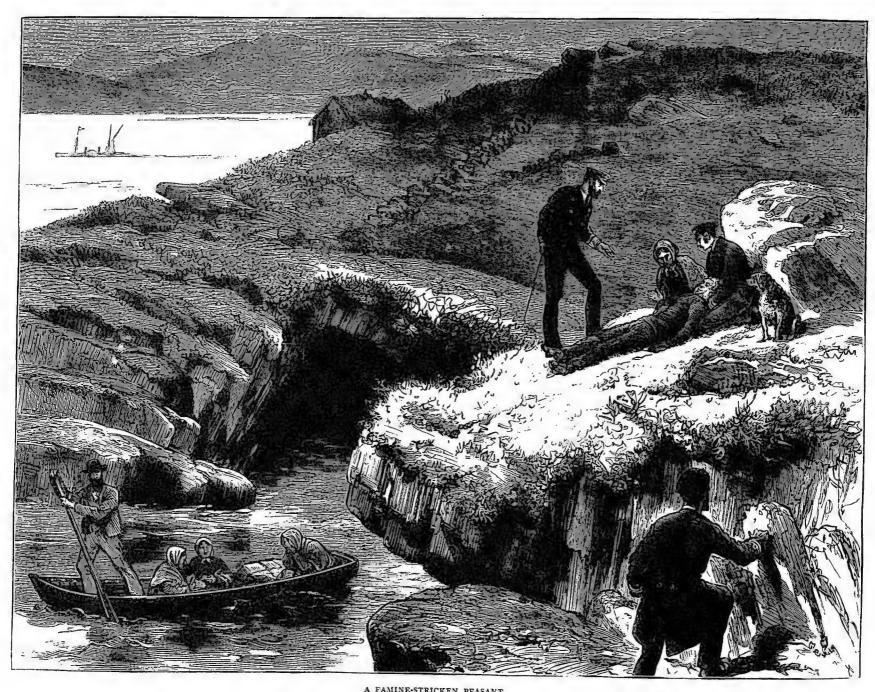
FORTUNE-TELLING appears to be as fashionable as ever, in spitc of the frequent convictions and punishment of those who practice it. Three female professors of the occult art have this week been dealt with at different Metropolitan Police Courts; one who had claimed to be the "daughter of the Seventh Son of God," and to have power to "do as she liked with mankind," was sentenced to three months' hard labour; while the others, who had simply juggled with cards and talked to their foolish clients about "dark men" and "fair men," got off with twenty-one days' and a month respectively.

three months' hard labour; while the others, who had simply juggled with cards and talled to their foolish clients about "dark men" and "fair men," got off with twenty-one days' and a month respectively.

FLOWERS FOR SHADY PLACES.—In a letter to one of the daily papers a lady offers a suggestion that is more deserving of consideration than yat first appear. After referring to the gratifying results. that, have attended the annual gratuitous distribution amongst working men of plants that have during the passesson figured in the public parks, and to the soothing and pleasure many a poor hospital patient has experienced by the sight and fragrance of the bountfull supply of cut flowers presented weekly by a committee of kind ladies to the various wards, the writer goes on to urge an association of benevolent individuals for the purpose of bestowing on the unfortunate dwellers in closely-pent and stunless back streets and courts and alleys free gifts of flowering plants, in pots, for the decoration of the window-sil, and the lighting and theering of dingy interiors. It is pointed out that the matter might be easily arranged by appointing the most reliable greenigroter of the closure of the closure of the closure of the closure of the total case to poor to be able to indulge in such luxuries out of their own slender means. It is far from improbable that such a mission would yield excellent results. It is only those who know nothing of the poor and their habits and customs, who believe that they have no taste or care for flowers. At this time of year the market-places situated in the lowliest neighbourhoods are gay with geraniums and finchisa and white heath for sale on the hucksters' stalls; and Sunday after Sunday there is an admiring crowd of unfashionable visitors at the beautiful flower-beds of Victoria and Battersea Parks. It is possible of course to exaggerate sentimentally the influence of expanding buds and blossoms in the homes of rougher grades of the community. The man who has long been in the habit of ch

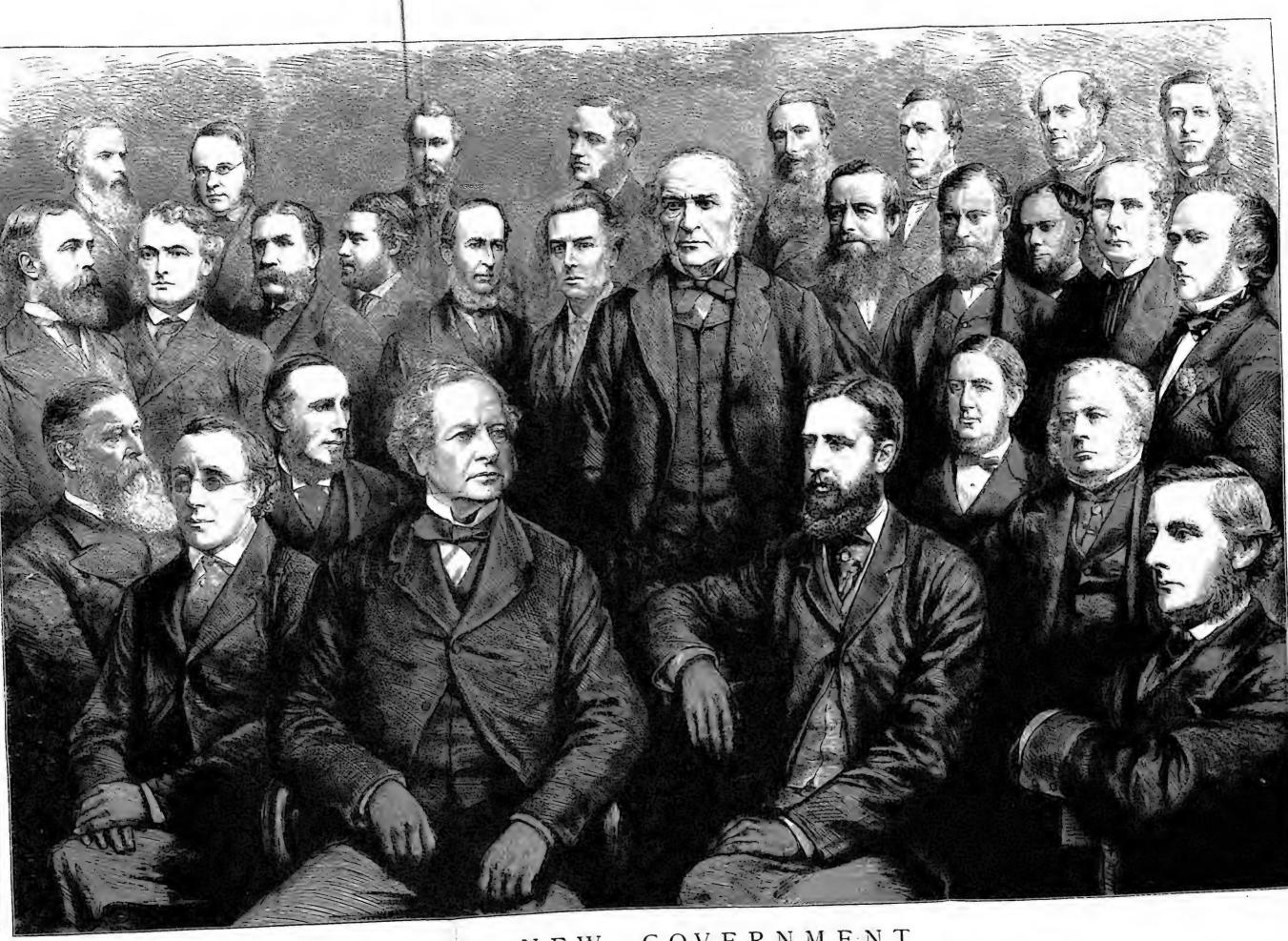


AT GORUMNA—" THE EMBERS OF LIFE"



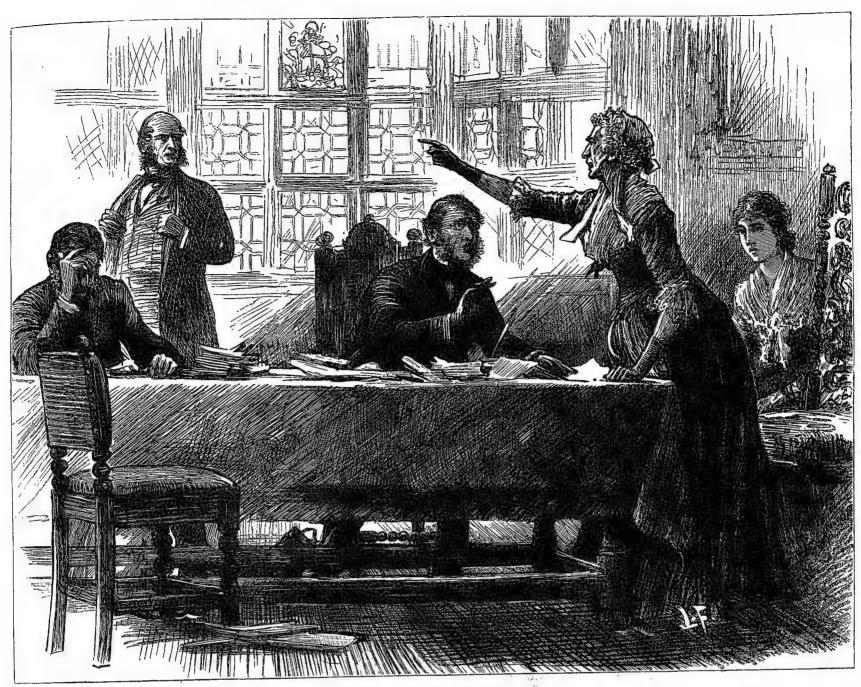
A FAMINE-STRICKEN PEASANT

THE DISTRESS IN IRELAND—THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH AND THE OFFICERS OF THE RELIEF SQUADRON VISITING THE SICK OFF THE WEST COAST



THE NEW GOVERNMENT





DRAWN BY LUKE FILDES,

"You lured my brother Stephen to his destruction—you sucked his blood like leeches—you stripped him like thieves and murderers."

LORD BRACKENBURY: A Novel

By AMELIA B. EDWARDS.

Author of "Barbara's History," "Debenham's Vow," &c.

CHAPTER XXV.

FAWCETT, CLARKE, AND FAWCETT.

"But why the deuce does she insist on seeing me?" said Fawcett senior, carefully going round the crown of his hat with his coat-cuff. "Why not let Goodban settle with us?"

"Can't imagine," muttered Clarke abstractedly; his nose buried in a pile of documents.

in a pile of documents.
"It's a horrid bore!" remarked Fawcett junior, scribbling as fast

The door opened—the room being a sort of inner office used only by the partners—and there entered a red-headed youth with a pen behind his ear, who announced that the "chaise was waiting."

"All right," said Fawcett junior. "You may put in the box labelled 'Langtrey Grange Estate.' If you don't know which it is, ask Weevil. And, look here,—these letters are all for the London mail."

Then, the clerk having vanished, he added :-

Then, the clerk having vanished, he added:—
"She wants, of course, to propose a compromise."
Fawcett senior, looking at himself in the glass, arranged his hair, put on his hat, and proceeded to draw on his gloves. He was a tall, bald, well-dressed, well-preserved bachelor of sixty, with bushy dark whiskers, a conspicuous smile, and a handsome white hand, which he took care to display liberally.
"I don't see what compromise Miss Langtrey could possibly propose at the present stage of affairs," said this gentleman, smiling blandly at his own reflection.
"Wants to retain possession for her lifetime, most likely,"

ion for her lifetime, most likely, suggested the nephew, hastily putting away his papers, and locking his desk.

"I hope not. Having withdrawn her business from the firm—and it was certainly not worth keeping—she has no claim upon our consideration. None whatever. And it would be painful to be

Mr. Clarke—lean, sallow, shabby-looking, in spectacles and a brown wig—lifted his head at this, and blinking over his glasses, said

"Don't alarm yourself unnecessarily. Your feelings won't be put to the test. The old woman would starve in a garret sooner than ask a favour—especially from you."
"So much the better. And yet, I say again, why the deuce does

she stand out for a personal interview?

The elder partner grinned sardonically.

"Maybe she has a disagreeable surprise in store for you.
Borrowed the money, belike, from some other quarter, and means to pay off the mortgage."

Fawcett senior stopped short in the act of pouring out a glass of sherry. His jaw fell.

"If I thought that.—" he said, with emphasis.

"I shouldn't be a bit astonished," said Clarke, with a chuckle like the croak of a corn-crake. "Not a bit!"

Fawcett senior eyed his partner sourly, and emptied his glass at one gulp.

Fawcett senior eyed his partner sourly, and emplete his glass at one gulp.

"Perhaps you wouldn't think it quite so funny if it concerned the firm, instead of being a private matter of my own," he said, and stalked out in a huff; whereat Clarke only chuckled the more.

"An infernal old raven!" growled Fawcett senior as he and his nephew rattled up Singleton High Street at the heels of a high-stepping chestnut.

"I wish his teeth would choke him!"

Preparations for their arrival were going on meanwhile at Langtrey Grange. The appointed hour was two, and Miss Langtrey's solicitor was coming from Leek to meet his Singleton brethren. Old Bridget donned her Sunday gown, and Reuben, who performed the diverse functions of cowherd, stable-boy, coachman, and gardener, was bidden to put on the immemorial livery-coat and gaiters in which his predecessors had driven the family to church for the last sixteen or eighteen years.

in which his predecessors had diven the tailing of the sixteen or eighteen years.

Winifred asked her aunt whether a fire should not be lit in the oak drawing-room, but Miss Langtrey would not hear of it.

"Those snakes shall not poison the air of my sitting-room," she said, vehemently. "I should ever after feel that they had left their slime upon the floor! You can have the dining-room got ready for them if you like; the table will be convenient. And Winifred—Mr. Goodban must be invited to take a dish of tea with us in the drawing-room when they are gone."

drawing-room when they are gone."

Winifred had done what she could to avert the threatened storm, but in vain. Miss Langtrey was bent on seeing John Fawcett face to face, and on giving him that "piece of her mind" which Mr. Marrables so justly deprecated. He was to be paid, not by cheque, but in hard cash. Reuben had been sent over to Singleton on horseback that morning early, with instructions to present himself at the doors of the Old Bank as soon as they were opened. Being duly provided with a canvas bas for gold, and an old leather pocketduly provided with a canvas bag for gold, and an old leather pocketbook for notes, he was to stow these treasures in the breast-pocket of his under-coat, and ride home without stopping for anything or anybody by the way. All this he had faithfully performed; and now anybody by the way. All this he had faithfully performed; and now the money was in the house, safe and ready—two Bank of England notes for 500l. each; twenty ditto for 100l.; twenty ditto for 50l.; also one hundred crisp new country notes bearing the Old Bank's trusty superscription, for 20l. each, one hundred ditto for 10l., and one hundred pounds in cash, so making the sum of seven thousand and one hundred pounds, all told.

"Five thousand to clear the debt; two thousand for arrears of interest; and a hundred for possible extras," said Miss Langtrey triumphantly. "Knayes and robbers as they are, they can't run it

triumphantly. "Knayes and robbers as they are, they can't run it beyond that!"

Winifred had never seen her aunt so excited before. All that winifred had never seen her going from room to room, muttering to Winifred had never seen her aunt so excited before. All that morning, the old lady kept going from room to room, muttering to herself; locking and unlocking old bureaux that had not been opened for years; counting and re-counting the money with exultant eagerness; casting up columns of figures, and making elaborate calculations as to the cost of repairs, improvements, and the like. She never seemed to remember that the estate was to be cleared by means of Winifred's legacy, or to consider that Winifred should have any voice in the disposal of her little fortune. The money, the triumph, the plans were hers, and hers only.

To Winifred herself it seemed right and natural enough that her aunt should employ the legacy according to her pleasure. She had all her life been used to Miss Langtrey's autocratic rule, and would no more have dreamed of doubting the wisdom and justice of that rule than of questioning the efficiency of the solar system. It was

no more have dreamed of doubting the wisdom and justice of that rule than of questioning the efficiency of the solar system. It was only the old lady's restlessness that troubled her. Of mere wilfulness or irritability she would have thought nothing; but the unwonted glitter in Miss Langtrey's eyes, her heightened colour, her trembling hands, were symptoms so new and disquieting that she secretly resolved to send by and by for the family doctor, if they continued unabated.

The Famestre meanwhile were more than constant.

continued unabated.

The Fawcetts, meanwhile, were more than punctual, arriving a good quarter of an hour before the time appointed. Reuben, magnificent in threadbare drab and tarnished silver, took their horse and chaise round to the stables; while Bridget, starched and stiff as her own cap-frills, ushered them into the dining-room. Now it so happened that Winifred, who was arranging the table, heard nothing of their coming till they were announced, and was consequently surprised in the act of filling up the inkbottle, and laying out sheets of foolscap and blotting paper ready for use. She had not quently surprised in the act of ining up the introduct, and taying out sheets of foolscap and blotting paper ready for use. She had not intended to receive these unwelcome visitors, nor did they expect to be received by her, so that there was for the moment some little embarrassment on both sides. Mr. Fawcett, however, carried off emparrassment on both sides. Mr. rawcett, nowever, carried off his share with much bowing and smiling; begged leave to introduce his nephew, and remarked that the table "looked like business."

"Quite like a Board Room or Committee Room," he said, jocosely.
"Wants only the handbell and chairman's hammer to complete the illusion."

complete the illusion. I will tell my aunt that you are here, Mr. Fawcett," said Winifred,

"No hurry, Miss Savage—no hurry. We are before our time. I trust Miss Langtrey is well? I have not seen her for—let me see with a frigid bow

three—four—seven years, at least. We used to meet more frequently when your uncle—our valued and respected client for over a quarter of a century—was alive."

Winifred lingered irresolv el, with her hand on the door.

"My aunt is not well," she said.
fatigue her beyond her strength."

Fawcett senior, blandly rubbing his hands, murmured regretful sympathy.

sympathy.
"Her nerves are greatly shaken," continued the girl, loathing the man, yet constraining herself to appeal to his forbearance. "She is not herself to-day—and—and I have been very anxious all the morning. May I ask you, Mr. Fawcett, to remember this pre-

"Miss Savage, your wishes are commands. I will make every allowance for Miss Langtrey's state of health."

She bent her head, went out, and closed the door.

Fawcett senior looked at his nephew, and raised his eyebrows

Fawcett senior looked at his nephew, and raised his eyebrows significantly.

"That means that the old woman is in a devil of a temper," he said. "Mercury falling—glass standing at stormy. I know her of old—a regular Tartar."

"Don't you think it would put you into a devil of a temper, if you had to part from such a place as this?" asked Fawcett the younger. "I suspect they are miserable enough, both of them. That poor girl—how handsome she is!—looks as if she was breaking her heart."

"It's pretty evident I'm master of the situation," said Fawcett senior, going over to the window, and looking out into the courtyard. "Yes, it is a fine old place," he added, complacently; "but wait till you see how I will improve it."

"Don't improve it out of all recognition, whatever you do."

"Frank," said the uncle, tartly, "do you take me for a fool? I'm not going to modernise the place. I should be laughed at if I did—I know that as well as you do. But I'll put it into sound repair and make it thoroughly comfortable. I won't live in these rooms, with nothing but walls and windows and a paved yard to look out upon, I promise you. I mean to fit up that south wing for living purposes; use the ground-floor rooms at each side of the gateway for breakfast-room, library, and morning-room; and turn the Long Gallery into a drawing-room."

"A good deal will depend on the furnishing," observed his nephew, dubiously.

"It shall be done by a first-rate London house, and in a first-

nephew, dubiously.

"It shall be done by a first-rate London house, and in a first-rate way—leather papers, tiled hearths, carved oak furniture; every bit in the real old Elizabethan style from top to bottom!"

bit in the real old Elizabethan style from top to bottom!"

He pronounced it Elizabethan; but Fawcett senior was apt to make these little slips now and then. Happily there was no one but his nephew to hear it.

"One thing, at all events, is certain," remarked the younger man; "the whole concern would pretty soon tumble to pieces under the present regime. Look at those chimneys, and at those upper windows, and at the state of the roof over yonder—it's a habitation for bats and owls, in its present condition."

The door opened. There was a rustle of silk, a creaking of boots, and Miss Langtrey came in, followed by her nince and her lawyer. Passing the Fawcetts with a short, stiff jerk of the head, the old lady went quickly to the head of the table, and seated herself in the high-backed chair which she was wont to occupy at meal-times.

CHAPTER XXVI.

NABOTH'S VINEYARD

Miss Langtrev having, as it were, taken the chair, Mr. Goodban took his place at her right hand. Winifred sat a little way back, between the window and the fireplace. The Fawcetts subsided into two chairs that Bridget placed for them near the bottom of the table. There was a dead, silent formality about the whole proceeding which was extremely disconcerting. Strange to tell, Mr. Fawcett's fluency for once deserted him. He smiled; showed his teeth; rubbed his hands; but had not a word to say. Masters of the situation as they believed themselves to be, the uncle and nephew both felt as if they were sitting below the salt.

Miss Langtrey's solicitor—a placid, square-headed, mild-featured man of fifty or thereabouts, opened the proceedings.

man of fifty or thereabouts, opened the proceedings.

First he put on his glasses; then chose a pen and tried the nib on his nail; finally dived into a blue bag that he had placed beside him on the floor, and bringing thence a closely written

beside him on the floor, and bringing thence a closely written paper, said:—
"Having looked through my memoranda of this mortgage, gentlemen, it seems to me that there are only two points of special importance to be noted on the present occasion; the first being that Mr. Francis Fawcett, here present, who was apparently the original mortgagee, is seen to have transferred his mortgage ten years ago to his uncle, Mr. John Fawcett, also here present; the transferee taking the mortgage on the precise terms on which it was held by the transferrer at the time of transfer. Do I state the case correctly?" correctly?'

correctly?"

This was, on the surface, a perfectly inoffensive recapitulation of plain facts; but the Fawcetts winced under it, and Mr. Goodban intended that they should wince. That one word "apparently," as applied to the younger partner's share in the loan, stood for "ostensibly," and conveyed a world of meaning. The allusion to the date of the transfer also carried its sting with it. In plain English, Mr. Goodban would have said, "You, John Fawcett, screening yourself behind your nephew's name, lent five thousand pounds to Stephen Langtrey upon the Grange property; and when Stephen Langtrey died, and his sister withdrew her business from your firm ten years ago, you went through the formality of causing your firm ten years ago, you went through the formality of causing Francis Fawcett to assign the mortgage to yourself, that you might

thenceforth hold it in your own name and in your own power."
The Fawcetts knew what Mr. Goodban implied as well as if he had said it in those words, and winced accordingly. When, however, he looked up over his glasses and asked if the case was correctly stated, Fawcett senior was fain to swallow his wrath, and

correctly stated, Fawcett senior was fain to swallow his wrath, and reply with becoming suavity:—
"Quite correctly, Mr. Goodban."
"In the second place, I find that Mr. John Fawcett, having filed a bill of foreclosure against my client, Miss Langtrey, obtained a decree thereunder, calling upon her to pay the amount of principal, interest, and costs, as certified by the Master, within six months from the date of his report, or to be for ever barred of her equity of redemption. That report was dated five months and twenty-seven days since. Am I right. Mr. Fawcett?" "You have also given Miss Langtrey notice by letter of your

intention to demand possession, and if necessary to enforce it by a writ of assistance?"

Fawcett senior coughed uncomfortably, and muttered some not very audible allusion to "arrears of interest and the forfeiture involved in default of payment."

"Just so, Mr. Fawcett—just so. Now as I presume your object
"Just so, Mr. Fawcett—just J. inquire whather you have contents."

is to realise your security, may I inquire whether you have contemplated putting the estate up to auction?"

Fawcett senior shot a glance of triumph at his nephew "I am scarcely prepared to say at present," he replied; "but—on the whole—I rather think not."

"You probably calculate upon disposing of it privately?"
"I don't know, sir. I really cannot say. I will—I may perhaps keep it in my own hands"

"Ah, to be sure—and let it. Well then, Mr. Fawcett, supposing you become in equity, as now in law, the owner de facto of the Langtrey Grange estate, you would not, I presume, object to accept my client as a tenant?"

"What—Miss Langtrey?"

"Preciselv."

"Precisely." This was embarrassing. For once in his life, John Fawcett was actually "taken aback."

-well, really-is not this proposal somewhat premature?" he said, awkwardly.

"Not at all. We are bound to look forward; and Miss Langtrey

"Not at all. We are bound to look forward; and Miss Langtrey naturally wishes to end her days in the old house which has been the home of her family for more than seven hundred years."

The master of the situation fidgetted in his chair, unwilling to confess that he meant to live at The Grange, feeling that they were all looking at him, and not knowing how to reply.

Mr. Goodban took off his glasses.

"I put it to you, Mr. Fawcett," he said, "less as a matter of business than as a matter of—shall I say of feeling, or of justice?"

"I don't know what you mean by 'justice," said Fawcett, taking refuge in bluster. "The place becomes mine by default of payment—that's justice. Being mine, I dispose of it according to my pleasure—that's justice. I don't see why I should be called upon to promise the tenancy to a party who has always been in arrears with the interest, and who would always be in arrears with the rent. It isn't reasonable."

Miss Langtrey made a movement, as if about to speak; but Mr.

the rent. It isn't reasonable."

Miss Langtrey made a movement, as if about to speak; but Mr. Goodban checked her with a deprecating gesture.

"Your rent would be guaranteed to you, Mr. Fawcett," he said; "satisfactorily and fully guaranteed."

Fawcett shrugged his shoulders.

"And if you wish to know what I meant by the word 'justice,' I may perhaps venture to remind you that the affairs of the Langtrey family have been a source of enormous profit to the firm of Fawcett and Clarke, and that you therefore owe some consideration to the survivors."

survivors."

"I don't understand your insinuations, sir," said Fawcett, turning very red. "We worked hard for all we earned; and if the late Squire had been dissatisfied with our charges, he could have had our

bills taxed."
"He did not have them taxed, at all events," replied Miss
"He did not have them taxed, at all events," replied Miss "He did not have them taxed, at all events," replied Miss Langtrey's lawyer, referring to his paper of memoranda; "and he paid you, first and last, in hard cash, no less a sum than one hundred and forty-seven thousand, six hundred and eleven pounds, fourteen shillings. Truly a considerable amount, Mr. Fawcett—an amount that may be reckoned at over five thousand five hundred per annum. You will object that your disbursements were large. undoubtedly true; but your gains were also large-very large, Mr.

Fawcett."

This array of figures was too much for Mr. Fawcett's philosophy. He lost his temper, dropped his guard, and attacked.

'Now look here," he said, roughly; "all this is mere waste of time and breath. I don't mean to let the place; and if I did, I wouldn't let it to Miss Langtrey. I don't mean to sell it either. I mean to live in it. There's your answer. Now to business. Miss Langtrey has had six months' notice, and her six months will expire four days from now. She must pay, or go; and whether I bring, or do not bring, an action for ejectment depends on herself and her advisers. Now, that's plain speaking, and I hope you understand it."

"No speaking, Mr. Fawcett, could possibly be plainer," replied

"No speaking, Mr. Fawcett, could possibly be plainer," replied Mr. Goodban; "and I am happy to say that I understand it per-

Mr. Goodban; "and I am happy to say that I understand it perfectly."

Then, turning to Miss Langtrey:—
"You observe what Mr. Fawcett says, my dear madam—you must 'pay' or 'go.' The alternative is before you. Will you 'pay,' or will you 'go?'"

Except at that one moment, when he interposed to prevent her from speaking, Miss Langtrey had all this time sat with folded hands, rigid features, and tight-drawn lips; controlling herself by an iron effort, and biding her time. Now her time had come.

She smiled a grim smile, and said with forced deliberation, but in a sharp high key that betrayed the tension of her nerves:—
"I prefer to pay."

There was a dead silence. The younger Fawcett caught his breath, put his hand quickly before his mouth and looked down; the elder sat motionless, speechless, his defiant stare dying off into a blank bewilderment, and the colour ebbing slowly out of his face.

Mr. Goodban leaned back in his chair, took a furtive pinch of snuff, and said in his urbanest manner:—

"You hear, Mr. Fawcett? My client prefers to pay."

"Pay! She can't pay," stammered Fawcett. Then facing round upon Miss Langtrey, he said, vehemently, brutally:—

"You know you can't pay. It's a lie—a trick to gain time."

The old lady gave him one look—the first since she had come into the room.

the room.
"Mr. Goodban," she said, "this man is insolent. Oblige me by

"Mr. Goodban," she said, "this man is insolent. Oblige me by satisfying him that his money is ready."

Mr. Goodban, again opening his bag, took thence a bundle of documents, a roll of banknotes, and two little canvas bags full of cash; all of which he ranged before him on the table.

"As I have previously explained to you, Miss Langtrey," he said, "Mr. Fawcett must not only restore the title-deeds, but reconvey the estate, and that reconveyance he is bound to execute on receipt of the money."

The elder Fawcett sat confounded. The younger, speaking for the first time, admitted that they had not "altogether expected" the business to be arranged in this wise. The title-deeds they would hand over at once; they had them here, in fact. As for the deed of reconveyance, they would peruse it when submitted. deed of reconveyance, they would peruse it when submitted.

Mr. Goodban dived for the third time into the depths of his bag,

"Knowing that my client wished an immediate settlement," he said, "I have prepared a deed of reconveyance, ready for signature. Oblige me by seeing that it is correct."

He passed it across the table, and the Fawcetts read it together.

He passed it across the table, and the Fawcetts read it together. That is to say, Fawcett junior read it, and Fawcett senior pretended to read it. But he was choking with mortification, and his eyes travelled no further than the first half-dozen words of the opening formula. The man had set his heart upon The Grange. It was his Naboth's vineyard. For ten years (perhaps longer) he had coveted it, and marked it for his own; making it in various ways the nucleus of his ambitions and desires. Possessing it, he would acquire a position in the county. That position would pave his way to Parliament. Scheme upon scheme, project upon project, he had reared his house of cards to the topmost storey, only to see it shattered before his eyes at the moment of completion.

The parchment being found correct. Mr. Goodban counted out

The parchment being found correct, Mr. Goodban counted out the money note by note, coin by coin; principal, arrears of interest, and costs. The Fawcetts counted it after him. The money and the tin-box labelled "Langtrey Grange Estate," then changed hands across the table; Mr. Goodban hastily verified the title-deeds; and

only the deed of reconveyance remained to be signed.

It was the place of Fawcett senior to sign first. He reddened—hesitated—then, plunging his pen in the ink, dashed off his name with a flourish; muttered something about his "act and deed," and walked to the window, humming a tune through his teeth. The younger Fawcett witnessed his uncle's signature, and handed the deed back to Mr. Goodban.

"And now, Miss Langtrey," said Mr. Goodban, "Mr. Fawcett

having delivered up your deeds and executed the re-conveyance, he having delivered up your deeds and executed the re-conveyance, he is entitled to a receipt for them, which I have endorsed on the schedule originally prepared and signed by Mr. Francis Fawcett when the deeds were handed to him. Will you be good enough to sign there—just there, if you please."

And Mr. Goodban placed the document before Miss Langtrey. "My signature ends this business?"

"Finally."

"Then I have a word to say before I write it."

Mr. Goodban smiled expectantly; but Winifred, knowing what was coming, began to tremble.

Mr. Goodban smiled expectantly; but winnted, knowing what was coming, began to tremble.

"Not to you, Mr. Goodban—to John Fawcett yonder, who just now told me to my face that I was putting him off with a lie, to gain time."

"Mr. Fawcett forgot himself, my dear Miss Langtrey—forgot himself strangely, in a moment of excitement; but I am sure he regrets.

""

"My dear madam. . . "
"Tut, tut, Mr. Goodban! it is not for an honest gentleman like you to defend one who is neither honest nor a gentleman."

Fawcett, still at the window, wheeled round, stammering rage

and defiance. "If you mean that for me-

"If you mean that for me—"
"I mean that for you, John Fawcett. I've meant it for you this many a year. You are grasping, dishonest, a liar to the backbone! You lured my brother Stephen to his destruction. An upright attorney refused his case; you led him on and ruined him. He fell—you rose. He was beggared—you prospered. Money, land, credit were coined to fill your pockets. You sucked his blood like leeches—you and your partner Clarke. You stripped him like thieves and murderers, and left him to die by the wayside."
"Take care, Miss Langtrey—take care! My nephew witnesses what you say."

what you say."

"I repeat my words, and will repeat them to every one—thieves and murderers! Oh, you shall have the whole county for witnesses! You are none the less thieves because you did your plundering legally! You are none the less murderers because, instead of cutting the man's throat, you wore the life out of him by inches!"

"Aunt Hester—dear Aunt Hester!" interposed Winifred,

"Aunt Hester—dear Aunt Hester!" interposed Winitred, imploringly.
"Winifred, I will speak. Your uncle's death lies at this villain's door—his death, and our ruin; and now that I have him face to face, no power on earth shall silence me!"
"You have said enough, Miss Langtrey—more than enough," urged Mr. Goodban. "Let me entreat you to sign the deed."
He dipped a pen in the ink, and offered it to her. She took it with an odd look, and said somewhat indistinctly—
"Where is it? Where am I to sign?"
"Here, opposite the red wafer. Never mind those pencilled initials. You can write over them."
Her passion had been too strong for her strength, and now a

initials. You can write over them."

Her passion had been too strong for her strength, and now a strange trembling and confusion had come upon her. Nevertheless, she steadied her peu upon the paper, and wrote.

Mr. Goodban, anxiously watching, saw how her hand dragged, and how the writing staggered. Her "Hester," usually so upright, wavered all aslant, and the "Langtrey,"—carried forward without a break, as if the writer could not trust her pen to leave the paper—same strengling feelily down towards the right.

came straggling feebly down towards the right.

Suddenly, as she strove to form the last "y," Miss Langtrey's eyes grew dim, her ears were filled with a sound like the tumult of many waters, and, with a heavy sigh, she fell forward on the table.

(To be continued)



THE ROYAL ACADEMY

II. ~

MR. MILLAIS sends no important figure composition, and no landscape, but as a portrait painter he is seen to the greatest advantage in the present Exhibition. Besides being full of individuality, and painted with masterly, but well-restrained power, his six pictures display great variety of style, the treatment in each being exactly suited to the nature of the subject. The half-length of the "Right Hon. John Bright" (322) is an excellent example of serious and manly portraiture, strikingly life-like, and executed in an appropriately broad and simple style. In no important degree inferior to this is the soberly-treated half-length of "Luther Holden" (497), the celebrated surgeon, painted for St. Bartholomew's Hospital, or the painter's own head (218), destined to form part of the collection of portraits of artists in the Uffizi Gallery at Florence. It is, however, in his portraits of children that Mr. Millais is seen at his best. The two little girls seated in a woodland glade, listening with delight to the voice of "The Cuckoo" (315), are delightfully childlike in character and expression, and as well as the rich and harmonious landscape background, they are painted with combined delicacy and landscape background, they are painted with combined delicacy and force. The full-length of "Catherine Muriel Cowell Stepney" force. The full-length of "Catherine Muriel Cowell Stepney' (239)—a very young lady, who, attired in long black velvet dress, stands with a bunch of crushed yellow flowers in her hand—seems to us a still more charming work. Nothing could well be more fresh and ingenuous than the expression of the head, or more unconscious than the pose of the figure; and, apart from this, the picture is remarkable for its direct simplicity of treatment and the skill with which the masses of light and shade are disposed to give value to the face and the tangled mass of flaxen hair. All who regard this work must be impressed with its beauty, but a few only can rightly estimate the amount of art brought to bear on its production. The vigour and vitality which distinguish these works are entirely absent esumate the amount of art brought to bear on its production. The vigour and vitality which distinguish these works are entirely absent in the small pictures by Sir Frederick Leighton, who chooses to display here only the weakest side of his art. Though his cultivated power of design and fine feeling for beauty of form are to be seen in most of them, they are chiefly remarkable for their extreme refinement and delicate workmanship. In the first in order, "The Kiss" (142), there is beauty of composition and natural grace of movement, like the rest, it is over-refined and morbid in its excess of tness. The figure of the fair Circassian woman who is binding sweetness. The figure of the fair Circassian woman who is binding an embroidered scarf round her head, while a young girl holds a looking-glass before her, in "The Light of the Harem" (256), is distinguished by a certain stately grace of movement, and the picture is finished with fastidious care, but it wants vigour and vitality. The women and children in these and the artist's remaining pictures are infinitely removed from Nature; their delicately tinted flesh seems formed of the finest porcelain, not of "the common clay of human kind." That they are the work of an artist of rare accomplishments is sufficiently evident, but in consequence of their entire want of reality, their excessive smoothness of handling, and their meretricious suavity of colour, they leave a sense of monotony and weariness. Mr. Alma-Tadema's archæological accuracy and rare technical skill are to be seen in his "Fredegonda" (328), together with a greater command of expression than he has shown before. The discarded Queen, sumptuously attired, is seated in an open loggia, through the arches of which we see the marriage of Chilperic with her successor Galeswintha being solemnised in front of a temple standing in a green meadow. In one hand Fredegonda holds a metallic mirror in which she has been contemplating her own charms, and with the other she stealthily draws aside a curtain to look upon her rival. On her face, which is one of great beauty, mortified pride, jealousy, and malignant hatred are admirably expressed. The picture is luminous and rich in tone, and is painted in a broad, simple, and effective style. "Not at Home" (195) is a scene of domestic Roman life, vivacious in design, and displaying extraordinary skill in imitating the surfaces and textures of marbles, bronzes, draperies, and the like. Mr. Tadema's third picture, "A Spring Festival" (176), besides its perfect workmanship and vivid illumination, is remarkable for the correct drawing and graceful action of the figures, and the truth and beauty of the landscape.

and graceful action of the figures, and the truth and beauty of the landscape.

Mr. Briton Rivière's "Night Watch" (298) differs little in subject or treatment from his admirable illustration of Omar Kayan's celebrated poem, which appeared here two years ago. The lions and lionesses which are prowling about the ruins of an Egyptian temple by moonlight, in the present picture, are drawn and painted with consummate knowledge and skill, and the work is impressive by reason of its breadth of effect and the sense of profound stillness which it conveys.

Mr. E. Long sends "An Assyrian Captive" (210), a dusky beauty seated in a graceful attitude on a stone bench, painted in his usual finished style; and an admirable half-length of "Henry Irving as Hamlet" (416), in which he has succeeded in sezing the pathetic expression of the actor's face at the moment represented, and his appropriate gesture, with remarkable skill.

expression of the actor's face at the moment represented, and his appropriate gesture, with remarkable skill.

Mr. Marcus Stone's "Amour et Patrie" (282) is painted throughout with the most elaborate care, but it is not very dramatic in treatment; there is no particular expression in the face either of the aristocratic young lady, who is reluctantly relinquishing her love-tokens, or in that of her Republican lover, nor is there any special significance in their movements. The smaller picture by this artist, "Olivia and Dick Primrose" (205), is a more favourable example of his style, being spontaneous in design and true in its delineation of character.

"Olvia and Dick Printose" (205), is a more havourable example of his style, being spontaneous in design and true in its delineation of character.

Mr. Watson's large "Corporal Trim" (375) seems to us infinitely the best work he has produced. The faithful corporal, who is reverently laying the sword and scabbard on his master's coffin, besides being a faithful realisation of the character as depicted by the author, is full of unaffected manly pathos. The figure is admirably designed, and the sober tone which pervades the picture and its broad and simple treatment are in perfect keeping with the sentiment of the subject. We have nothing to suggest in the way of criticism, except that the work is on rather a larger scale than the subject demands. This remark applies in a much stronger degree to Mr. J. B. Burgess's "Professor and his Pupil" (431), which hangs on the opposite wall. The earnestness of the aged savant, who is studying a terrestrial globe with intense interest, is well expressed, and contrasts strongly with the listless weariness of the boy who sits by his side. The picture is agreeable in colour, and for the most part well painted; but in some parts, and especially in the boy's legs, which are very incorrectly drawn, it shows signs of haste and carelessness.

Six Laba Cilbert has found in the Second Part of Shakespeare's

well painted; but in some parts, and especially in the boy's legs, which are very incorrectly drawn, it shows signs of haste and carelessness.

Sir John Gilbert has found in the Second Part of Shakespeare's "King Henry VI." (275) a subject well suited to his large and vigorous style. The scene represented is that in which the King is summoned by Warwick to the bed-side of the murdered Duke of Gloucester. The subject is treated with great dramatic power,; and as regards composition, balance of light and shade, and colour, the work leaves nothing to be desired. In his picture, "The Last Days of Edward VI." (49), Mr. Andrew C. Gow has depicted an authentic historical incident with great force and skill. 'I he subject is described in a letter to the Emperor Charles V. from his Ambassador, who tells that the King was shown at a window in Greenwich Palace, to convince the populace that he was still alive. Nothing could well be more pathetic than the livid and attenuated face of the youthful King, who looks "with lack-lustre eye" on the assembled multitude, or more expressive of utter prostration than the attitude of his figure. The heads of his courtiers and attendants are very varied in character and expression; but none of them show so much sympathy as the large greyhound who gently licks his master's wasted hand which hangs powerless by his side. The picture is not quite in accordance with historic facts, inasmuch as King Edward here appears more than twenty years old, whereas he really died at the age of fifteen. But apart from this, it is entitled to the highest commendation for its excellent composition and sound draughtsmanship, as well as for the sympathetic way in which the subject is treated. Besides some of the most powerful and best male portraits in the collection, Mr. F. Holl sends a figure subject, "Ordered to the Front" (360), representing a party of Highland soldiers parting from their wives and children as they leave their baracks for the seat of war. The figures are extremely well grouped, and some masterly breadth and firmness.

THE INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS

THE INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS
The forty-sixth exhibition of the Institute, like those of recent
years suffers from the fact that many of its members, especially the
figure painters, devote so much of their time to oil painting. It is a
disappointment to find that the names of Mr. Herkomer, Mr. A.
C. Gow, and Mr. Gregory are not to be found in the list of exhibitors,
and that Mr. Seymour Lucas and Mr. C. Green send only small and
unimportant works. Mr. J. D. Linton, who has long been engaged
on a large picture destined for the Grosvenor Gallery, has, however,
found time to produce three drawings, including a figure composition
of considerable size, which, though it wants the charm of novelty,
displays some of the best qualities of his art. His "Scene from
Peveril of the Peak" (53) is a replica, with some variations, we
think, of a picture that has been exhibited before, representing
Colonel Bridgenorth interrupting the interview between his daughter
and her lover. The face of the maiden might well be more beautiful,
and her attitude more graceful, but the head of the stern Puritan is
a capital study of character, and the story is well told. Of the
technical merits of the work, of its rich and harmonious colour and
broad but finished workmanship, it would be difficult to speak too
highly. The half-length figure of a man "In Red" (35) and the
full-length of a lady richly attired "In White" (137) display the
same fine qualities of colour and execution, and almost to the same
extent. The only contribution of Mr. Seymour Lucas, "Captain of
the Guard" (82), a small single figure in the picturesque costume
of the time of Francis I., is full of character, and painted with
surprising freedom and precision. We have seen nothing on these
walls by Josef Israels so good as his picture to which no title is
attached, of a picturesque Dutch interior with a woman and children.
Besides the simple domestic sentiment and sober harmony of colour
generally to be seen in his works, it is remarkable for the admirable
way i THE forty-sixth exhibition of the Institute, like those of recent

arms contemplating a pig in a stye. Though little more than a sketch, it serves to show the painter's true perception of rustic character and fine feeling for colour. Another Dutch artist, G. Clausen, is seen to unusual advantage in the present display. His "Back to their Homes" (100) has a striking appearance to reality; the long line of fishing girls who are seen tramping across a wide stretch of sand are full of character and animation, and the picture throughout has the peculiar lucidity of tone in which the modern Dutch painters, beyond all others, excel. Very different in subject and treatment, but not less good, is this artist's second picture, "By King Charles' Status—An April Morning" (146). The time-worn pedestal of the Charing Cross Status which occupies the foreground is painted with extraordinary imitative skill, and as well as the distance, which includes the steeple of St. Martin's Church, is full of the most delicate gradations of tone; the figures too which give animation to the scene are life-like and appropriate. The picture reminds of the French painter, De Nittis's manner of treating similar subjects, and it suffers nothing by the comparison. Mr. Boughton, who has recently joined the Society, sends an excellent drawing of an old man heavily burdened wearily making his way along a country road, called "Home" (46), and another "Good Night" (121), in which two groups of peasants are seen parting from each other in a meadow overlooking the sea. Besides being thoroughlyfresh and unconventional in treatment, both these pictures are remarkable for the perfect harmony which exists between the figures and the country which they inabit. Strikingly in contrast with this spontaneous art is that to be seen in Mr. H. Johnson's scenic and artificial composition, "The Isles of Greece" (51). This, however, may perhaps be a caprice on the part of an artist who has often shown himself to be a sincere student of nature. By Mr. J. Fulleybove, who delights in stately formal gardens, and has a fine perception of



"VIDA," by Amy Dunsmuir (Macmillan and Co.).—We must own that we were not predisposed in favour of this book, its title carries us back to the absurd travesties published some years ago of certain ultra-sensational novels by a well-known lady novelist, and we were prepared to find in "Vida" but a réchauffé of old scenes in the Riviera or in Florence. Our judgment was at fault. Miss Dunsmuir carries us no further afield than the Isle of Arran, and her characters are homely English people of the most charming type. Vida, the heroine, is a girl whose ways while yet in her teens irresistiblyattractthereader's attention. A wildunkempt Scotch lassie deprived in early childhood of a mother's care, she owes her education to her father, a hard Scotch minister, and her manners, to her native grace, aided by the lessons inculcated by a worthy Scotch nurse. The visit of some English visitors to the wild Scotch island opens a new life to Vida, and it does not require a practised hand to feel that the boy, Arthur Kennedy, Vida's first companion, will eventually become her lover. His rival Jeffrey, a clergyman who lives close to Mr. Callander, is admirably drawn, a true specimen of the Church militant, whose earnest labours in His Master's field are touched upon with becoming reverence. The plot is a simple one based on such occurrences as might happen to any one. It is worked up with great care, and the characters, even of the purse-proud, vulgar Mrs. Stanley, are clearly and cleverly drawn. Though essentially a book for the young, their elders will find in "Vida" a thoroughly enjoyable, healthily-written book, which shows the authoress to be capable of really good work. To mothers who find a difficulty in weeding the lists of modern circulating libraries, where the tares have choked the good wheat, we can cordially recommend "Vida" as being a book that not only can do no harm, but is capable of doing an immensity of good.

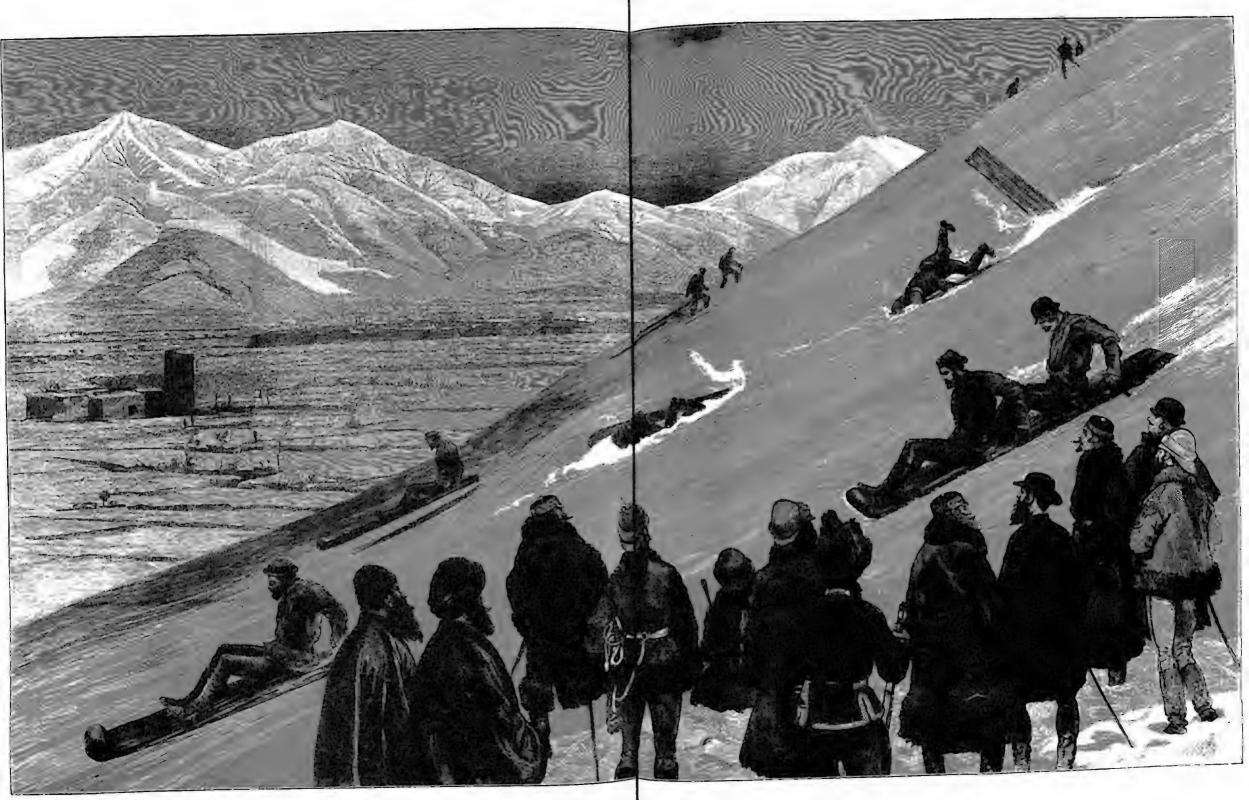
"Poet and Peer," by Hamilton Aidé (Hurst and Blackett).—A novel under the above title, dedicated to th

defects in his character-defects, alas, natural to many of us

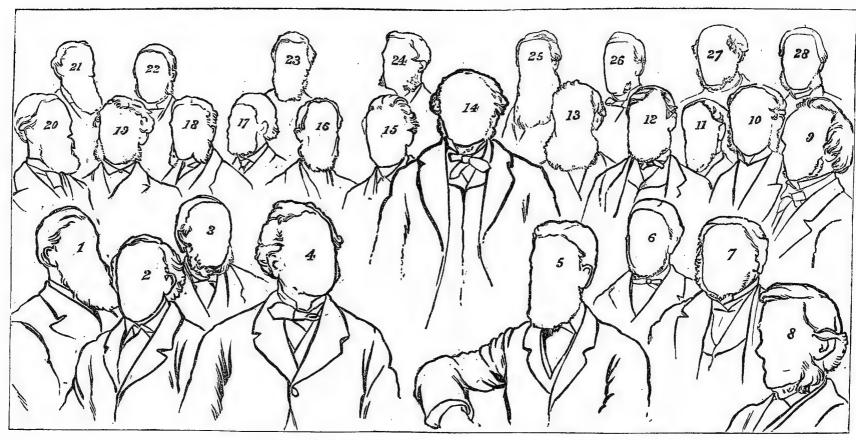
defects in his character—defects, alas, natural to many of us—Lord Athelstone is drawn with great power; his evil adviser the Prussian female advocate for divorce, who, having drawn a blank in the natrimonial lottery, wishes to weaken the bonds which the English law has wisely forged with rivets not easily knocked asunder, is a woman of great strength of character, but little calculated to inspire those feelings which Robert, Earl Lytton, so warmly depicts in his sensuous verses. Nellie Dawson, the village girl who blossoms forth into Lady Athelstone, is a charmingly drawn picture, but even her character pales before that of Miss Brabazon, who is the guardian angel of the Athelstone family. Hubert St. John is a man of sterling worth; we can well understand how these two trusty friends grew to life under the warm touches of the gifted author's pen. "Poet and Peer" is a book that will be widely read and most deservedly appreciated. It enhances Mr. Aidé's already very high reputation, and adds one to the alast too short list of the season's good novels.

"Hollywood," by Annie L. Walker (S. Tinsley and Co.).—There is little mystery in this book. Miss Thomas evidently does not think that language was given to conceal our thoughts; she makes no attempts to mystify the reader; all is as clear as noonday. When once we find the little schoolgrid speculating on the character of her wice-bar in the railway carriage, we naturally conclude that this is but the prelude to a more intimate acquaintance which shall inevitably ripen into something warmer than friendship. Then, again, when the stately housemaid, with her neatly braided hair, evinces such schoolers and the control of the property of the control of the control of the property of the control of the property of the control of the property of the property of the control of the property

Co-operative "M.D.'s."—Presiding at the first dinner in aid of the Hospital for Women, Prince Christian remarked on the fact that the institution in question, which was commenced in 1842, was the first in the metropolis to adopt the system of paying wards, enabling those who are anxious and willing to contribute to their own maintenance to obtain advantages impossible in their own homes. The excellent example of offering asylum to "paying" patients has since been followed by other hospitals, and the success that has attended the plan sufficiently attests the grateful appreciation of the people. A kindred movement, that of establishing provident dispensaries on altogether new and improved principles, seems to have aroused an amount of public attention such as cannot fail to encourage the promoters of the salutary reform to persevere with it. There is really no reason why the projected combination of medical practitioners on co-operative principles should not find favour with the working and middle classes when its advantages come to be fully understood. It is no novelty amongst poor folk. In almost every district in the metropolis and those localities that are most densely populated may be found a so-called "dispensary," an unpretending place, sometimes a shop and parlour, or a first floor front room, where, during certain hours morning and evening, "the doctor" is in attendance to provide advice and medicine to certain clients to whom he is pledged at a contract price. The ordinary terms are a shilling per week per family, exclusive of home visits; to members having the privilege of private attendance in serious cases on payment of a further sum of two shillings weekly, with five shillings or seven-and-sixpence extra for confinements. It must be assumed that such speculations, if not so successful as they might be, prove passably remunerative, since year in and year out the business goes on, and the card of invitation is still shown in the dingy window, announcing that "Dr. — wishes to inform the working classe



AFGHANISTAN-TOB GGANING AT CABUL



KEY BLOCK TO "THE NEW MINISTRY" (SEE EXTRA FOUR-PAGE SUPPLEMENT)

- (1) Rt. Hon. Hugh C. E. Childers, Secretary of State for War
- (2) Mr. H. FAWCETT, Postmaster-General
 (3) The Earl of Northbrook, First Lord of the Admiralty
- (4) Earl Granville, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (5) The Marquis of Hartington, Secretary of State for India
 (6) Sir W. Vernon-Harcourt, Secretary of State for the
- Home Department
 (7) Rt. Hon. John Bright, Chancellor of the Duchy of
- (8) The Duke of WESTMINSTER, Master of the Horse
- (9) The Duke of ARGYLL, Lord Privy Seal
- (10) Lord Selborne, Lord Chancellor (11) The Earl of Kimberley, Secretary of State for the
- Colonies (12) Rt. Hon. W. E. FORSTER, Chief Secretary for Ireland
- (13) The Marquis of RIPON, Governor-General of India (14) Rt. Hon. W. E. GLADSTONE, First Lord of the Treasury
- and Chancellor of the Exchequer
- (15) The Right Hon. J. CHAMBERLAIN, President of the Board of Trade
- (16) The Rt. Hon. J. G. Dodson, President of the Local Government Board
- (17) Mr. G. J. SHAW-LEFEVRE, Secretary to the Admiralty
 (18) Rt. Hon. W. P. Adam, First Commissioner of Works
 (19) Sir Henry James, Attorney-General
 (20) Sir Charles Dilke, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs

- (21) Mr. Grant-Duff, Under-Secretary for the Colonies (22) Dr. Lyon Playfair, Chairman of Ways and Means (23) The Earl of Morley, Under Secretary for War (24) Mr. T. Brassey, Civil Lord of the Admiralty

- (25) Mr. MUNDELLA, Vice-President of the Council (26) Mr. JOHN HOLMS, Junior Lord of the Treasury (27) Earl Sydney, Lord High Steward (28) The Earl of Cork, Master of the Buckhounds

THE NEW MINISTRY

THE NEW MINISTRY

Taken man by man, the new Ministry are exceptionally strong, and, supported as they are by a powerful majority in the House of Commons, they ought, if they only work harmoniously together, to accomplish some noteworthy achievements during their tenure of office. In this brief survey, we will as much as possible avoid mere facts and dates, which can be found in any of the ordinary handbooks. We will give, however (in brackets) the age of each of Her Majesty's principal advisers.

Concerning Mr. Gladstone (70), it is needless to say anything, except that we hope he may bravely bear the burden of his double office, indeed, it may be said, his triple office, for he is not only Premier and Chancellor of the Exchequer, but Leader of the House

Premier and Chancellor of the Exchequer, but Leader of the House

of Commons. Lord Selborne (67) is a man of the highest character, who has before held the honourable post of Lord Chansellor, and who is not likely to countenance any revolutionary designs either in Church

Farl Spencer (44), formerly a popular Irish Viceroy, is now President of the Council, a post rather of dignity than of labour. His lordship's portrait unfortunately reached us too late for inclusion in the group of Ministers.

Nor has the Duke of Argyll (57) very arduous duties to perform as Lord Privy Seal, but he is a hardworking man, and will doubtless lend efficient aid to his colleagues.

The office of Eccepts Secretary, on the other hand once more

The office of Foreign Secretary, on the other hand, once more held by Earl Granville (65) is not likely, in the present condition of Europe, to be a sinecure. If he can lay that unquiet ghost, the Eastern Question, to rest, he will win an enduring reputation.

The new Indian Secretary, the Marquis of Hartington (47), has had the good fortune to sit for a good many years in the breezy atmosphere of the Lower House. Since 1874, when Mr. Gladstone retired into private life (resuperly, like)

retired into private life (reappearing, however, pretty frequently, like the proverbial tallow-melter), Lord Hartington has led the Liberal party in the Commons, and has, step by step, steadily advanced in

party in the Commons, and has, step by step, steading advanced in popular esteem.

Sir W. Vernon-Harcourt (53) is just now, owing to the fickleness of that ancient city on the Isis, more occupied with searching for a seat than with the discharge of the multifarious duties which press on the shoulders of a Home Secretary.

The Earl of Kimberley (54) knows all about the Colonies, and ought to be able to settle the affairs of South Africa, just now the most troublesome of Britannia's offspring.

One associates Mr. Childers (53) with the Navy rather than with the Army, but he has done good work at the Admiralty, and will doubtless display equal zeal at the War Office.

Lord Northbrook (54), hitherto best known as an Indian Viceroy of sterling good sense, assumes the rulership of the "Queen's Navee." He succeeds a very popular and very efficient public servant.

Just now the post of Irish Secretary is of first-rate importance, nd whether he succeeds or fails in that most difficult and unthankful office, Mr. Forster (62) will, we may be sure, put his conscience

Mr. Bright (69) administring the revenues of the Duchy of Lancaster seems like the old warrior threading a lady's needle, but he has done an immensity of hard work in his time, and may fitly

now take matters easy.

Mr. J. G. Dodson (55) was a capital Chairman of Committees, firm yet courteous, and he will find plenty of opportunities for exercising both these qualities at the Local Government Board.

Lastly comes Mr. Chamberlain (44), youngest and most Radical member of the Cabinet. He bring; from Birmingham a reputation for business aptitude, and may please Mr. Plimsoll by stirring up that acthet sleepy department, the Board of Trade.

Hyving now got among the outsides.

Having now got among the outsiders, we may pass on more rapidly. Firl Sydney (75) exchanges the troublesome post of Lord Champerlain for the easier berth of Lord High Steward. The Duke

of Westminster (54), millionaire though he be, does not disdain to be dubbed Master of the Horse; and the Earl of Cork (51) with equal cheerfulness accepts the Mastership of the Buckhounds. But these are offices rather of mediæval than of modern significance. Not so the Postmaster-Generalship, where such a man as Mr. Fawcett (47) may institute some valuable reforms; or the Under-Secretaryships for Foreign Affairs and for the Colonies, held respectively by Sir Charles Dilke (37) and Mr. Grant Duff (51). As their chiefs are both in the Upper House, they will have numerous opportunities of dealing with questions of vast importance, and they are both well versed in Continental and Colonial affairs. In like manner Mr. G. J. Shaw-Lefevre (48) will have to defend and explain the policy of the Admiralty in the House of Commons. Mr. Mundella (55), from his intimate knowledge of working men, will, as Vice-President of the Council, be able to do useful work in the solution of educational problems; Mr. Brassey (44), a notable amateur seaman, is in the right place as Civil Lord of the Admiralty; while Mr. Holms (50), as a Lord of the Treasury, may make his influence more effectually felt than heretofore on his favourite subject of Army Reform. Concerning Mr. Adam (57), Dr. Playfair (61), Lord Morley (38), and Sir H. James (52), it is sufficient to say that, in their various ways, they are all good men. The portrait of Mr. Campbell-Bannerman, Financial Secretary to the War Office, reached us too late for insertion.

Last of all comes a man who, though not in the Cabinet, wields the authority of the Queen over the most remarkable Empire which the world has ever seen. As Viceroy of India the Marquis of Ripon (53) succeeds to vast responsibilities. Both for his own sake, for the sake of the British nation, and for the sake of those numerous nations which make up the aggregate of our Eastern Empire, we wish him God speed!

nations which make up the aggregate of our Eastern Empire, we wish him God speed!

Our portrait of Mr. Fawcett is from a lithograph published by Messrs. Cassell, Petter, and Galpin, La Belle Sauvage Yard, E.C. The others are from photographs:—Mr. Gladstone and the Duke of Argyll by Elliott and Fry, 55, Baker Street, W.; the Earl of Kimberley, Lord Sydney, Sir H. James, Dr. Lyon Playfair, and Messrs. Forster, Bright, Adams, Shaw-Lefevre, and Holms, by the London Stereoscopic Company, 54, Cheapside, E.C.; Lord Morley and Sir C. Dilke by Alex. Bassano, 72, Piccadilly, W.; Lord Hartington by Marion and Co., 22 and 23, Soho Square; Lord Selborne by Lock and Whitfield, 178, Regent Street, W.; the Duke of Westminster and Lord Northbrook by S. A. Walken, 64, Margaret Street, Cavendish Square, W.; Mr. Grant Duff by Lombardi and Co., 13, Pall Mall East, S.W.; Mr. Mundella by Mayall, 224, Regent Street, W.; the Earl of Cork by Hills and Saunders, Eton; Mr. Dodson by S. Parry, St. Denbigh's Mount, Chester; Mr. Brassey by Boning and Small, 22, Baker Street, St. Leonard's-on-Sea; Mr. Chamberlain by R. W. Thrupp, 66, New Street, Birmingham; Lord Granv'lle by J. Russell and Sons, East Street, Chichester; Sir W. V. Harcourt by Palmer, Granville Marine Studio, Ramsgate; and Mr. Childers by Bradley and Rulofsen, San Francisco, U.S.A.



THE ENGLISH FLOWER GARDEN. —— Our venerable and venerated contemporary, the *Quarterly Review*, seldom contains an article especially commending itself to the ladies, or indeed to any students of the graceful rather than of the serious side of existence. The present number, however, *does* contain such an article, for the popular author of "A Year in a Lancashire Garden" brightens its pages with a little treatise on "The English Flower Garden," which

should have as many readers as there are English men and women who love flowers, and have gardens to grow them.

who love flowers, and nave gardens to grow them.

LAND AND WATER. — The Irish agitator has sometimes been unfavourably contrasted with certain members of the brute creation, but we have not yet heard him compared with the crocodile. That, however, is the only dangerous amphibious monster with which we are acquainted, and the Irish agitator is no longer confining his efforts to land questions. The fishery, river, and water rights of Irish proprietors are now the subject of attack, and a set opposition to the rights of the Duke of Devonshire over the great Blackwater Fisheries is being organised. Fisheries is being organised.

GROUSE.——The breeding season has been and is a considerable improvement on 1879, and the broods thus far hatched are considered healthier, as they appear to be more numerous than last year. On the other hand vegetation is not in a favourable or forward state in the moorland districts, and the dry easterly weather prevailing is neither good for the development of the fledgelings or propitious to vegetable growth upon the moors. A few old birds have been picked up which appear to have died of disease.

COACHING.—The season sees upon the road the Defiance

have been picked up which appear to have died of disease.

COACHING.—The season sees upon the road the Defiance, London to Brighton; Selby's, to Virginia Water; the Guildford coach, the Windsor coach, and the Dorking coach. These started on the 1st. To-day there leaves for Boxhill, for the first journey of the season, the coach of Mr. Seager Hunt. There is a cross-country coach running between Brighton and Reading; but the Oxford and Cambridge coach appears to have left off running. We fancy that a coach to Maidstone would be popular, and it is a pity that the lovely New Forest scenery cannot be traversed. The North of England ought to follow the lead of London, and run coaches between some of the great towns that stud the counties of York and Lancaster. York and Lancaster.

WITH THE FOXHOUNDS.—During the past season the following packs have had over a hundred runs:—The Duke of Beaufort's, the Blackmoor Vale, the Craven, the Duhallow, and the Earl of Zetland's. Lord Percy and Mr. Garth completed their century of runs. The greatest number of kills are to be attributed to the Duke of Beaufort's, the Bramham Moor, North Cheshire, and South Cheshire—all of which killed over an average of a fox at each run. The season was on the whole a good one.

Societies.—The Shorthorn Society the Cart Horro Society

Society.—The Shorthorn Society, the Cart Horse Society, and the Royal Agricultural Society each had a meeting at the beginning of May. We are glad to see that the finances are sound all round. The Shorthorn Society has been able to spend some considerable amount of money in a most needed prosecution of a fraudulent vendor of shorthorns. The Cart Horse Society, although a new body, has already received a goodly number of subscriptions, and has a first-rate list of members.

FORTHCOMING SALES AND EXHIBITIONS.—Entries for the Hertfordshire Show close on the 16th of June.—The Essex Agricultural Society have their annual show on the 10th and 11th of June. tural Society have their annual show on the 10th and 11th of June. The show includes dogs and poultry. Prizes to the amount of 2001. will be given.—The Gloucestershire Agricultural Society have their annual meeting on July 27th, 28th, and 29th.—The Nottinghamshire Agricultural Society have their third annual show on July 1st, 2nd, and 3rd.—The Hampshire and Berkshire Agricultural Society intend having an exhibition at Portsmouth at the close of June. The prize list amounts to 1,1001.—The Bull Dog Club have their sixth show, at Aldridge's, on May 20th, 21st, and 22nd.—The Peterborough Hound Show is fixed for the 16th of June, and entries must be made before the 1st of June. A good deal of interest is felt in this show.—There will probably be a good Dog Show at Bridgenorth on the 22nd and 23rd of July; while the Eastern Counties will have a similar exhibition at Bury St. Edmund's, on the 24th and 25th of June. the 24th and 25th of June.

FORTY YEARS' AGRICULTURAL EXPERIENCE .seldom been read, even at the Society of Arts, a more important or interesting paper than that in which Mr. Chalmers Morton summarised his observations on weather, crops, and agriculture during four most eventful decades. The statistics compiled by Mr. Morton will be of public service, and his paper showed that the meaning of will be of public service, and his paper showed that the meaning of will be of public service, and his paper showed that the meaning of will be adding facts of his forty years' experience had been weighed the leading facts of his forty years' experience had been weighed and considered with great care. A large body of leading country and considered with great care. A large body of leading country and considered with great care. A large body of leading country and considered with great care. A large body of leading country and considered with great care.

hands of Mr. Read and Mr. Pell. hands of all. Near and All. Policy Yeomen. —Sir Massey Lopes regrets to see the land coming into the hands of a few persons. Sir Massey wishes to resuscitate the yeomanry or freehold as opposed to tenant farmers.

-The farmers of this county have formed an DORSETSHIRE. DORSETSHIKE.

Association with the view of returning to Parliament members who association with the view of returning to Parliament members who association with the view of returning to Parliament members who will practically represent agriculture. Imposing no "programme," but seeking simply good men with sound practical knowledge of agriculture, the Dorsetshire farmers seem to be taking a wise and excellent step. Men of agricultural associations, and who have practical experience, will seldom fail to stand by agricultural interests if the agriculturists will only stand by them. The desertion of Mr. Clare Read must not be repeated towards other agricultural representatives, or we shall soon have no independence, but only narty men.

party men.

MISCELLANEOUS.—We regret to hear of the death of Mr. Laurence Anderson of Moffat. Mr. Anderson was a Justice of the Peace, and the author of a popular work on sheep-farming. The Peace, and the held in his native county was a compliment to all position which he held in his native county was a compliment to all Lowland tenant farmers.—Oak bark peeling is now general. Four pounds per ton is a good price.—Snow has fallen on the hills of Galway.—A hoopoe was recently seen at Colchester.—Recent night frosts have done much injury to the blossoming fruit trees.—Mutton continues to rise in price, and is now decidedly dear.—Mutton continues to rise in price, and is now decidedly dear.—Horses are improving in demand, and consequently in value. The 45'. offered by the Royal Artillery fails to secure really good animals, and there is a distinct scarcity of good horses just now.—Many dead rabbits recently picked up are found to have died of "fluke." Hares have usually escaped the malady.—Six fresh agrarian outrages are reported from different parts of Ireland.—A good Horse Show has just been held at Manchester.



The Fortnightly Review opens with a letter to an old Conservative The Fortnightly Review opens with a letter to an old Conservative on the Conservative Collapse; this essay has already received a great deal of attention, and was largely quoted in a leading article in The Times. It is an article which cannot be fairly reviewed in the short space at our command, for it is worthy of close study: suffice to say that in our opinion it is most decidedly the most able contribution to the electioneering literature of the past two months. Although written by a Liberal, it is written in the most importing strain, but it contains many home truths which the impartial strain, but it contains many home truths which the Opposition would do well to lay at heart.—Sir George Campbell's contribution on Home Puls in Contrib Opposition would do well to lay at heart.—Sir George Campbell's contribution on Home Rule in several countries is distinguished by that able Anglo-Indian's marvellous power of observation, but is couched in the dogmatic style which characterises alike his speeches and his writings.—Mr. Wilfrid Blunt's chapter on "A Recent Page of Arabian History" is well worth reading, but it falls far short in interest to his wife's charming books of travels in the same little-known country.—The editor's essay on "Home and Foreign Affairs" is a masterly review of the present situation, which in very truth is known country.—In editor's essay on "Home and Foreign Affairs' is a masterly review of the present situation, which in very truth is one of the most intense difficulty. The writer is fully impressed with the conviction that the Government fell owing to their Foreign Policy, and that the Water Bill had little to do with their defeat. Be this as it may—and on this question Mr. Morley will meet with many opponents—there is not the shadow of a doubt but that the settlement of foreign questions is the most serious legacy the

many opponents—there is not the shadow of a doubt but that the settlement of foreign questions is the most serious legacy the in-coming Ministry have inherited. Already difficulties are cropping up, and clouds in the East are gathering thicker and thicker.

The New Quarterly is unusually heavy, and the articles on "Public Schools," which from time to time have appeared in this periodical, are in this number followed up by one on Marlborough, which has fully earned its right to be placed in the category of English Public Schools. The concluding paragraphs of the article are devoted to brief memoirs of the various head masters who have English Public Schools. The concluding paragraphs of the article are devoted to brief memoirs of the various head masters who have ruled over this rising school. These are remarkable chiefly for their brevity. Justice is done to Cotton, whose sad death by drowning on the borders of Assam spread a gloom over India which penetrated to the farthest extremities of the Empire, and was felt in the schoolrooms of Rugby and Marlborough; to Bradley the author does no more than justice, while Farrar and his work are lightly passed over.—The article on Russia is a valuable contribution to a little-known subject; and that on the General Election is a pæan of Liberal triumph, a chorus of the song chanted in the Fortnightly as to the collapse of the Foreign Policy, of which Lord Beaconsfield was the author, and his supporters the nation. The Reviews on Selected Books are admirably done, that on the much-lauded fifth volume of the Prince Consort's "Life" being especially vigorous. The book is denounced, and with some show of reason, as a "Jingo remelated the testice of the Imperialist Ministery"

The book is denounced, and with some show of reason, as a "Jingo pamphlet—the election address of the Imperialist Ministry."

In the Argosy the "Mysteries of Heron Dyke" still continue the most noteworthy feature, but the little tale, "Mr. Smith," is a eleverly-conceived magazine story, well worthy the reputation of the bright little magazine.

a cleverly-conceived magazine story, were useful to bright little magazine.

Temple Bar opens with a continuation of "Adam and Eve," a very commonplace novel it promises to be. The "Memoirs of Henri Mürger" are admirably written; it is impossible to avoid feeling deep sentiment for one so talented, so unfortunate, and who died so young.—Mrs. Lynn Linton's novel, "The Rebel of the Family," is carried on, and its interest is fully maintained. The interview between Perdita and Leslie is capitally told in the fourteenth

interview between Perdita and Leslie is capitally told in the fourteenth chapter, and shows that Mrs. Linton has lost none of her cunning. The article on the "Ober Ammergau" Passion Play in *The Theatre* gives an immense amount of information concerning this marvellous spectacle, information which those who desire to witness one of the most strikingly sensational performances of modern times would do spectacle, information which those who desire to witness one of the most strikingly sensational performances of modern times would do well to master. The cost of a trip to Munich is so slight that we fancy many will gladly avail themselves of the hints contained in Mr. M'Queen Gray's letter, and run over to witness the Passion Play, instead of contenting themselves with newspaper reports.—The critiques on current plays are written with force and energy, but to our mind in the summing up of his remarks on the Pirates of Penzance Mr. Scott has contrived to compress judicious praise into the smallest possible compass. "The whole thing ripples and rhymes as neatly as Mr. Gilbert's verses and flows as charmingly as the smallest possible compass. "The whole thing ripples and rhymes as neatly as Mr. Gilbert's verses and flows as charmingly as Mr. Arthur Sullivan's music"—more it would be difficult to say.

The Atlantic Monthly is excellent, and contains more well-selected articles than any magazine published on this side of the water.—"The Still Water Tragedy" grows apace, and grows in interest.—Mr. Byer's "Ten Days in the Rebel Army" is an amusingly given history of an eventful ten days in the author's life, when every hour he carried his life in his hand, and only escaped owing to his ready wit and dauntless courage.—The review on Mark when every hour he carried his life in his hand, and only escaped owing to his ready wit and dauntless courage.—The review on Mark Twain's new book is by no means too flattering; although there is a certain similarity in all which that author writes, there is no doubt of the depth of his humour or the originality of his genius; for this alone his books would be most readable, but they are skilfully

compiled guide-books by one of the most observant of modern travellers, and will long remain popular.

In the Cornhill Mr. Black's "White Wings: a Yachting Romance," is continued. If the author would only take us away from Stornoway and Jura and Mull, and give us some scenery other than the monotonously described Scotch isles, we should be deeply grateful. "White Wings" is an underdone richauffe of "The Princess of Thule."—Mr. Frederick Locker's charming little verses, "From the Cradle," are worthy a more prominent place than is here accorded them.—The article, "How a Chinese B.A. was once Initiated into the Mysteries of Educational Work in the Celestial Empire," shows us the home and birthplace of competitive examinations.—"Mrs. Austin" is carried on with much vigour in this number, contains a very pleasing illustration, and though the loves of the principal actors do not turn out quite what we should have anticipated, the novel grows in interest, and promises to be well worth perusal.

well worth perusal.

In the March number of the American Art Review, Mr. W. J.

Linton commences a "History of Wood Engraving in America,"
which promises to be of great interest. It is admirably illustrated
with reproductions of the works of the more famous men, beginning
with Dr. Anderson, the first wood engraver in America. He was with reproductions of the works of the more famous men, beginning with Dr. Anderson, the first wood engraver in America. He was contemporary with our Bewick, whose influence on his style is clearly perceptible. The best of the etchings is the "Village Street in France, with Flock of Sheep," by J. Foxcroft Cole, in which the effect of bright, hot sunshine is very skilfully rendered.



EVERY one feels for Cowper, suffering from the most terrible form of constitutional malady; but few are so formed as to feel with him, and of these few Professor Goldwin Smith would scarcely claim to be one. Yet it was, perhaps, well that "Cowper" (Macmillan), should fall to one who looks on the life "in that well at Olney" from the outside. The sweet gentleness of the poet's character and the charm of his letters (he is the best of English letter-writers) often make those overrate him who are drawn to him by religious sympathy. overrate him who are drawn to him by religious sympathy. Had he lived amongst his fellows, he might (Professor Smith judges from the episode of the "Retired Statesman") have excelled in the Had he lived amongst his fellows, he might (Professor Smith judges. from the episode of the "Retired Statesman") have excelled in the Horatian vein, though the slightest personal influence at once disarmed him as a censor; witness his acquitting Warren Hastings because they were together at Westminster. Rousseau he resembled in his painful self-introspection. and also in honestly recognising, in an artificial age, the charm of Nature; Madame Guion's quietism, "evangelical Nirvana," he found too congenial; yet his outlook in politics was clear: "We, too, shall have revolution soon" (he wrote) "if we don't get some reforms," and, like Kaunitz, he rightly felt that kings and princes would have done far more wisely to leave the French to manage their affairs alone. His humour never failed. When a lad he used to say of his uncle, Theodora's father, a very little man in a big white hat, lined with yellow, "He'll be picked one day by mistake for a mushroom;" and the letter, signed "W.C., M.U.," about Mr. Grenville coming to canvass, is brimful of fun. Fun, in fact, contended with primness in Mrs. Unwin's very loveable character. Professor Goldwin Smith points out that in no natural struggle for existence could Cowper have been the survivor, by no natural process of selection would he have been picked out as a vessel of honour. He would have been cast aside as a specimen of despicable inferiority, "but for the shield which Christ has spread over the weak things of this world."

The two series, "English Men of Letters" and "Foreign Classics for English Readers," naturally introduce us to very different characters; and "St. Simon" (Blackwood) is about as different from Cowper as

christ has spread over the weak things of this world."

The two series, "English Men of Letters" and "Foreign Classics for English Readers," naturally introduce us to very different characters; and "St. Simon" (Blackwood) is about as different from Cowper as one human being can be from another. The question which meets Mr. Clifton W. Collins at the outset is how much of the celebrated Memoirs is true; and to this no satisfactory answer can be given. St. Simon delighted in posthumous vengeance. All the chief men of the time, 'Vendôme, the idol of the army, Villars, the hero of fifty battles, Rochefoucauld, the typical grand seigneur, he stigmatises in language such as Junius uses of the Duke of Grafton; but, as most of his strictures rest on his own authority, it is impossible to gauge their correctness. Yet much of his writing bears the stamp of truth; night after night he would go to his dark cabinet and scribble down, regardless of style, the scene, the conversations, of the day, "anxious only that the picture should stand boldly out of the canvas." His pictures are vivid, though they only occur here and there amid long chapters of a dulness which discomfited even Macaulay; but few will agree with M. Taine in thinking that "St. Simon, Pascal, and La Fontaine are the artists of the seventeenth century." Impounded by the King soon after their author's death, the Memoirs remained in the French Foreign Office, occasionally dipped into by curious publishers, till General Saint Simon recovered them in 1819. The first complete edition was published in 1830; and the effect was "like that caused by the appearance of the Waverley Novels," says Ste. Beuve. What are published are not a tithe of the whole; and we are glad Mr. Collins is able to tell us that, with M. de Freycinet's leave, M. de Bellisle is preparing to publish the famous "Paquet d'Espagne," his failing to use which was such a loss to Mignet's work. The volume before us is one of the most interesting in the series. It gives us a vivid picture of what the Fr manner, as they appear in St. Simon, must have atoned for many

faults.

"The Daily Round: Meditation, Prayer, and Praise, adapted to the Course of the Christian Year" (J. Whitaker), is a sort of Churchman's Bogatzky's Treasury, with text, comment, reflection, prayer, and verse for every day in the year. When we say that almost all the Bishops have heartily praised it, and that it has approved itself to men so unlike in views as Bishop Fraser and Canon Liddon, we feel that further commendation on our part would be superfluous. Still we will add that for spirituality combined (as it too seldom is) with practical soberness of part would be superfluous. Still we will add that for spirituality combined (as it too seldom is) with practical soberness of thought, the manual seems to us unmatched. It is this which makes it so thoroughly in harmony with the spirit of the Church whose liturated and or it follows.

whose liturgical order it follows.

British Burma only got a Bishop two years ago; and now by the death of one daughter and the serious illness of another Bishop Titcomb has been driven from his diocese almost before he could know very much about it. His remarks on the Eurasians, and their need of a good English education, may well be taken to heart in the Presidencies. Everywhere this large class has been neglected; and then we complain of its want of self-reliance, manliness, &c. The fault is with us; we have been educating the natives, and, too generally, leaving our own flesh and blood to grow up anyhow. Dr. Titcomb speaks very well of the Burmese climate; of King Thebaw and the horrors for which a remedy may be hoped from Christianity he says little. We advise him to keep clear of Brahmins if he has nothing better to tell them than that "Christianity was revealed in the

Old Testament at a time when the Hindoo mythologies had no existence." No wonder his Bengali inquirers "gradually

no existence." No wonder his Bengali inquirers "gradually dropped off."

As Mr. Bravender says in "The Potato Disease, and How to Prevent It" (Farm Journal Office, Great Queen Street), people till last year had almost ceased to think of the potato disease. In its milder form it was accepted as inevitable; but the Irish distress and the great loss in England show that if it can be stamped out the thing should be done at once, It shows itself in wet seasons, disappearing in dry ones; and its sudden appearance in Europe was undoubtedly due to the transmission of diseased tubers. Hence Mr. Bravender's plan: let Government take the Isle of Wight or of Man, and for one year allow no potatoes to

disappearing in dry ones; and its sudden appearance in Europe was undoubtedly due to the transmission of diseased tubers. Hence Mr. Bravender's plan: let Government take the Isle of Wight or of Man, and for one year allow no potatoes to be planted (that the spores of disease-fungus may die out of the ground). Next year let none be planted but those raised on a hotbed from perfectly sound seed. If the experiment succeeds let it be extended to the whole kingdom, and let foreign potatoes be rigidly excluded. This, we fear, is Utopian; more practical is the advice to plant early, so as to get-your crop out before disease sets in, to stick to the disease-resisting kinds (unhappily they are not the best eating), and not to plant (as is almost always done) with firesh stable dung, that favourer of the decay of protein. A prize might also be well offered for a disease-resisting early kind, like Sutton's Magnum Bonum among late potatoes. The book is a good summary of what is to be said on one of Nature's puzzles.

Mrs. Pritchard confesses that "Friends and Foes in the Transkei" (Sampson Low) would not have been published but for the late events in South Africa. Having been over and over again introduced to all the minutize of life during the Zulu war, we are sure, she thinks, to take an interest in an Englishwoman, her nurse, and babies who were at the front two years ago. Her book is very much more worth reading than many who have lately written on South Africa; and young ladies who wish to know what they must look forward to if they marry officers on active service may find it very useful. She writes well; and the enthusiasm which made her think that "if the men are going to retire, the women had better go to the front" is highly creditable; while in her nurse Gog she has given us a new type worthy of Dickens.

The Nowell case has reminded us that the Lunacy Laws are not yet wholly satisfactory; and Dr. J. C. Bucknill, well known to many for his "Mad Folk of Shakespeare," his essay on "Maud, from a Medical Point of Vi

often been "kept at bay in his diagnosis of recovery;" and (as in all his books) he writes forcibly and to the point.

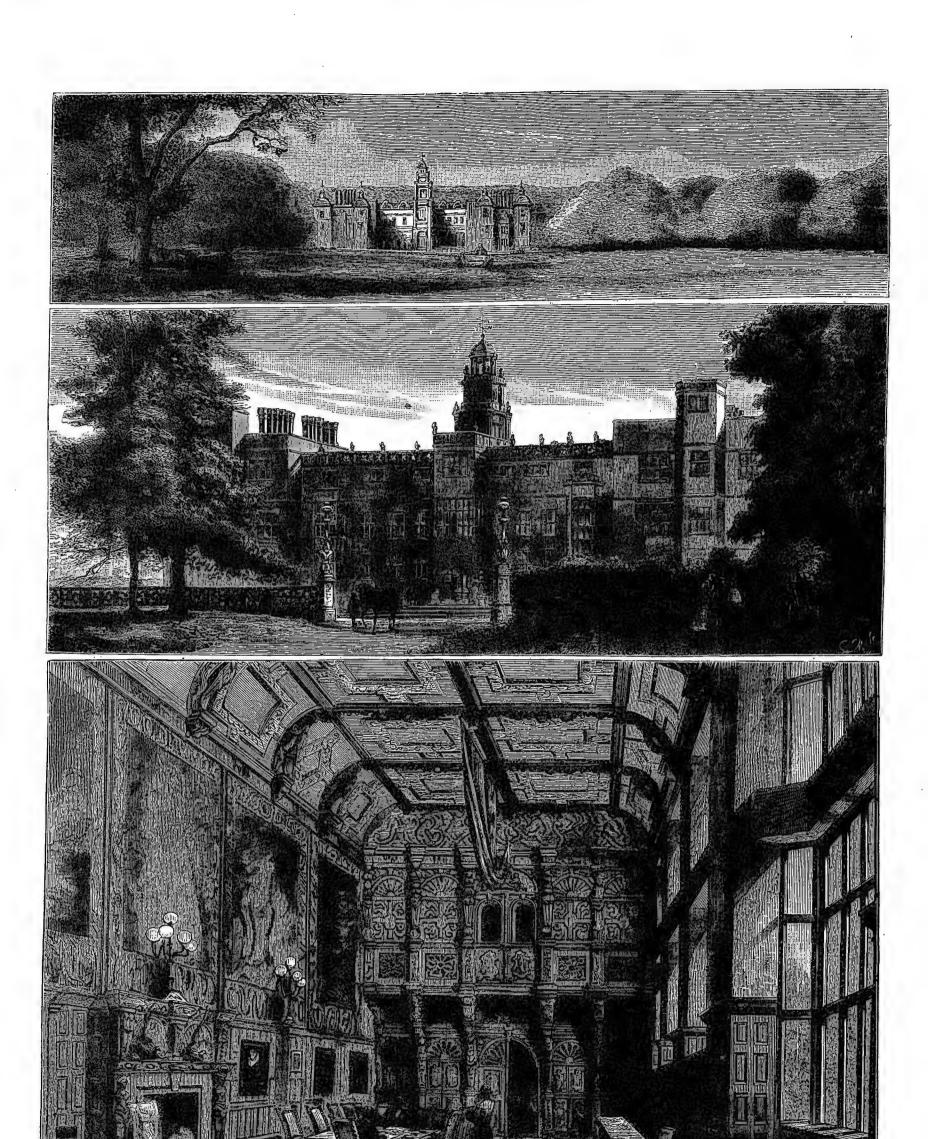
America, the land of new communities and social experiments, has been saved by its extent from the difficulties which in Europe beset such experiments. With all the West before them, the has been saved by its extent from the difference when he beset such experiments. With all the West before them, the regenerators of society have preferred going afield to trying to convert their neighbours. Such close societies,—Mormons, Perfectionists of Oneida under Mr. Noyes, Harmonists of Economy, Beaver County, Zoarites, Amana Inspirationists, &c., always seem to thrive well in business. In numbers they fail, because in nearly all of them (leaving the Mormons out) celibate austerity is deemed Beaver County, Zoarites, Amana Inspirationists, &c., always seem to thrive well in business. In numbers they fail, because in nearly all of them (leaving the Mormons out) celibate austerity is deemed superior to marriage, and young members, therefore, generally prefer going out into the world. But Mr. Theodore D. Woolsey's "Communism and Socialism: Their History and Theory" (Sampson Low), is by no means confined to these American Communities. He glances at every Utopia from that of the Buddhist monks to that of Louis Blanc. He discusses the 'International' and its congresses. He treats at length of Socialism in Germany, devoting a separate chapter to Schaeffle's "Quintessence of Socialism, the Alpha and Omega of which is the transmutation of private competing capital into united collective capital." Socialism, by the way, and Communism mean much the same thing, the former name having been invented in France because of the odium which had fallen on the latter. No doubt capital is disposed to combine tyrannically; and, just as Trade Unions have in some cases done much good among ourselves, so Marx and Lassalle may have done good in Germany. The growth in Germany of a so-called Christian Socialism, both Protestant and Romanist, is remarkable, though scarcely noticed by Mr. Woolsey. His conclusion naturally is that, despite the evils of the present system, there is no likelihood that we should be better off with the State as general purveyor; while higher education and "æsthetical culture and skill" would necessarily languish, if they did not wholly die out.

"The Chairman's Handbook," by Reginald F. D. Palgrave (Knight and Co.).—Anglo-Saxondom is the peculiar home and original birthplace of the public meeting; Continental countries, being until lately unacquainted with the thing, have been obliged to borrow the word from us; yet even in England, from ignorance of certain well-considered principles, the public meeting is often conducted in an irregular and unsatisfactory manner. In this respect no better model can

greatly stimulated a public interest in matters scientific throughout the country.

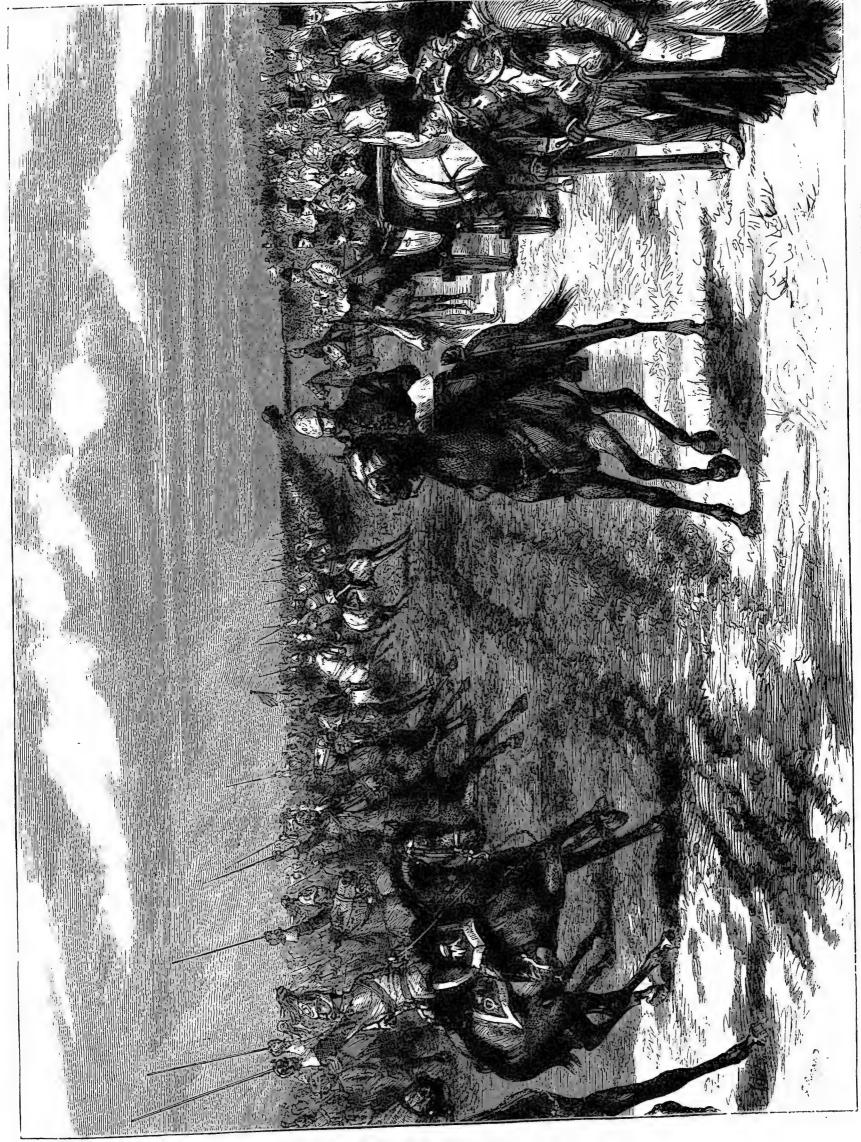
Two official volumes, of no little use to business people, are the "Foreign Office List" and the "Colonial Office List" (Harrison). The latter, however, has an interest for the general public as well, including as it does valuable historical articles on our different colonies, giving information which will prove of great service to intending emigrants and all engaged in the commerce of our Colonial Empire. It is also amply illustrated with maps.

Mr. Henry W. Lucy's "Popular Handbook of Parliamentary Procedure" (Chatto and Windus), does not belie its title. Its object is to make the subtle intricacies of debate and procedure in the House of Commons intelligible to the ordinary newspaper reader. This it does in a chatty, anecdotal fashion; and what would otherwise seem dry is rendered very pleasant and instructive reading. The final chapter on the deluge of talk peculiar to modern Parliaments is much to the point.



1. The House and Park from the South.—2. The North Front.—3. The Marble Hall.

HATFIELD HOUSE, HERTFORDSHIRE: THE SEAT OF THE MARQUIS OF SALISBURY—II.



lying on clean straw, and there are foxes and fox-cubs not a dozen yards distant, and evidently in a disturbed state of mind at the close proximity of the hated enemy, while vicious looking bulldogs, whose many scars bespeak them tried warriors in the fighting pit, loll peacefully within chain's length of each other, serenely dozing or lazily winking, as though it was understood among them that this was neutral ground, and they were in honour bound to keep the peace. There are badgers for baiting, and specimens of the mungoose and the racoon tribes and fighting cocks, and hawks and pigeons and owls of all descriptions, every one with its eyes so wide open in amazement as to considerably shake one's belief in the naturalist's dictum that the owl invariably sleeps during the day. Those, however, who would like to view the curious spectacle must not delay, for its days are numbered. Intending visitors should take advantage of the prevailing cool weather. There are peculiarities of Leadenhall that make it a place to avoid during "dog days."

THE ONLY TREE OF LIBERTY IN PARIS has just burst into leaf. It was planted with several others on the proclamation of the Third Republic, but all its companions have perished, and this sole survivor, which stands before the Town Hall in the Montrouge quarter, is carefully protected by an iron railing, as in 1872 some malicious person tried to cut it down. The first Tree of Liberty in France is said to have been planted in 1790 by the curé of St. Gaudens, and his idea was taken up so warmly that 80,000 were planted in two years. Indeed Louis XVI. himself presided over the alarting of the state in the Tvillaries Gardens. but when he planting of some of these trees in the Tuileries Gardens, but when he fell they were uprooted as having been "defiled by the hands of Capet," and were replaced at the national expense, while they were regarded as such sacred emblems that at Rouen nine persons were executed for having cut one down. The oak was at first considered the most fitting, but was discarded as being too Royal, and replaced by the poplar, naturally a more fitting symbol of a pop'lar movement.

BOOKS RECEIVED

The Purcell Papers (3 vols.): J. Sheridan le Fanu. Bentley.
Kings in Exile (3 vols.): Alphone Daudet; Holywood (3 vols.): Annie L.
Walker. S. Tinsley and Co.
Odd or Even, Vol. I.: Mrs. Whitney. Ward, Lock, and Co.
Portugal, Old and New: Oswald Crawfurd; Health: W. H. Corfield,
M.A., M.D.; The Prince's Quest: William Watson. C. Kegan Paul and Co.
Highland Legends: Sir Thos. Dick Lauder. Hamilton, Adams, and Co.
Curiosities of Puritan Nomenclature: Charles W. Bardsley. Chatto and
Windus.
Poets in the Pulpit: H. P. Harries The Cart Additional Control of the Control of the

Windus.
Poets in the Pulpit: H. R. Haweis; The Great Artists—Horace Vernet:
J. Runtz Rees. S. Low and Co.
Crosby Records—A Cavalier's Note Book: Ed. by Rev. T. Ellison Gibson.
Longmans, Green, and Co.
Geography for Little Children: Antonia Zimmern. E. Stanford.
Water Supply: J. H. Balfour Browne; Handbook of Public Picture Galleries
of Europe; Kate Thompson. Macmillan.
Kind Hearts: Mrs. J. F. B. Finch; The Funny Picture Book. Griffith and

Farran. Carlsbad (2nd Edition): J. Kraus, M.D. Trübner.

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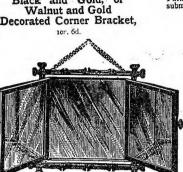
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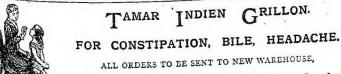
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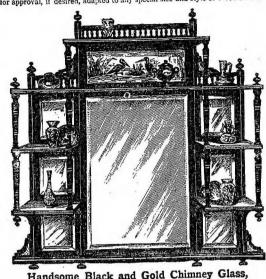
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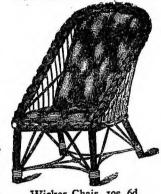


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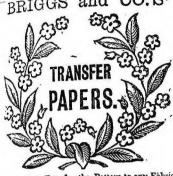
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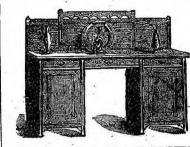


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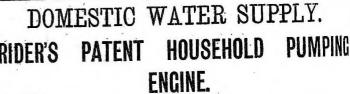
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